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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARRIOR'S WEEKEND FIELD OF HONOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 15th anniversary of the Warrior's Weekend Field of Honor.

The mission of the Field of Honor has always been to honor our Nation's veterans and encourage our wounded warriors. This all began in May 2009 when Warrior's Weekend president, Ron Kocian, a Texas Army National Guard veteran, gave retired Colonel Mike Petrash of the U.S. Army the approval to conduct the first Field of Honor in Victoria, Texas, in support of Warrior's Weekend. It became an instant success during which 550 sponsored flags were posted by local area sponsors, patriots, and families, touching the hearts of over 300 visiting warriors from all over the United States.

In 2011, the Field of Honor expanded its army of volunteers, so to speak, and encouraged faith-, civic-, veteran-, and youth-based organizations to partner

with them as a way of raising funds for their own community programs in a way that is honorable and noteworthy.

As the Field of Honor matured and the mission of honoring veterans for their service continued to thrive, it eventually led to the inclusion of the third pillar of the Warrior's Weekend mission: to build a community of honor and excellence.

Throughout the lifetime of the Field of Honor, over 30,000 flags have been sponsored, prepared, and posted in honor of our veterans, wounded soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen who come to Victoria from all 50 States and Puerto Rico to enjoy a weekend of respite from their wound care.

Warrior's Weekend and the Field of Honor are truly a nationwide ministry that has a positive impact on the thousands of cities and towns across America. The warriors go back and live more complete, productive lives for themselves, their families, and their communities.

On this day, we recognize the service and sacrifice of all those thousands of patriotic servant leaders who have strived for 15 years to honor veterans, encourage warriors, and build a community of honor and excellence.

Warrior's Weekend Field of Honor has shown this Nation what "right" looks like, and it is through the great work and leadership of volunteers demonstrating a true commitment to honoring the United States of America as one Nation under God.

REMEMBERING OFFICER TRUONG THAI

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DONALDS). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a law enforcement officer hero from Nevada who made the ultimate sacrifice serving our community: Officer Truong Thai.

Last October, while responding to a late-night domestic disturbance, Officer Thai was shot and killed at the age of 49, leaving behind his father, brother, four sisters, his daughter, Jada, and an entire community of law enforcement officers who relied on his mentorship and support.

A 23-year veteran of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Officer Thai's colleagues describe him as someone who could have served in the highest levels of the department as a sergeant or a lieutenant. Instead, he chose time and again to serve at all hours of the day and all hours of the night on the front lines of our communities because what he cared about most was keeping people safe.

Officer Thai represented the best of our law enforcement, someone willing to put his life on the line for his community, but also a family man who never stopped giving back.

He coached girls' volleyball and enjoyed playing with his daughter, Jada. He went on fishing trips with colleagues and their children. He never hesitated to help someone in need.

We should all be grateful for the service of Officer Thai and inspired by his dedication and generosity as we remember his service.

In addition, I take a moment to honor the sacrifices of far too many other law enforcement officers from Nevada, also lost in the line of duty, including: The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Detective Justin Michael Terry; Officer Edward Aaron Contreras, Jr.; Sergeant Douglas Michael King; Officer Philip Carl Closi; Bailiff Gerald Raymond Smith from Pahrump Justice Court; and Officer Ray Edward East from Walker River.

This week, I thank our law enforcement officers for their service and remember those like Officer Thai, whose dedication to his community and family we will never forget.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H2353

CONGRATULATING MS. DEE HEARD ON WINNING THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of last week's Teacher Appreciation Week to congratulate my constituent and winner of the Clark County School District Teacher of the Year Award, Ms. Dee Heard.

Ms. Heard is a sixth-grade teacher at Sedway Middle School and an innovative leader who is constantly thinking of ways to engage her students outside the textbook.

When students struggled after the pandemic, she designed a schoolwide math competition, complete with pep rallies and digital workspaces, to create learning incentives and help students track their progress and goals over time.

Ms. Heard also leads outside the classroom. She regularly collaborates with school staff to assist with everything from bus tickets to emotional support to food for her students.

I could not be more proud to represent teachers like Ms. Heard, and to know that our next generation of leaders is in such great hands. I thank her for all her hard work, and I congratulate her on her well-deserved honor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the incredible southern Nevada teachers who deserve our appreciation, not just this week, but every week.

SECURE OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MANN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that my House Republican colleagues and I passed H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act, last week.

President Biden's open border policies have created chaos at our southern border and the resulting crime surge and fentanyl crisis. I urge my Senate colleagues to also pass this common-sense legislation, which would finish the border wall, add Border Patrol agents, end catch and release, protect children from human trafficking, and stop the fentanyl crisis.

The border crisis is getting worse and worse every day. People on the terrorist watch list are being apprehended regularly, and there is no telling how many have snuck in illegally. I have been to the southern border, and what I saw was shocking. I saw human heartbreak, scared children, overcrowded facilities, overwhelmed Border Patrol agents, and evidence of human and drug trafficking being committed by the Mexican cartels.

Mr. Speaker, I saw whole giant sections of the unfinished border wall, with the materials to finish these sections lying in piles in the sun. We need to fix this humanitarian crisis now, and we have done our part in the House to do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the U.S. Senate and the President will step up to the plate, as well.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, this is National Police Week, and I am proud to use my voice and my vote in Congress to honor the brave men and women who wear the badge and put their lives on the line to protect all of us.

Since President Biden took office, crime rates have skyrocketed. In the last 3 years, the number of officers shot in the line of duty is up 52 percent; in major American cities, homicides are up 13 percent; rapes are up 23 percent; and aggravated assaults are up 33 percent. Meanwhile, Federal arrests are down 35 percent. These numbers confirm that we need to do a better job supporting our law enforcement officers and ensure that they have the resources they need to do their job.

I support law enforcement officers. This week, as a part of my commitment to the Big First, I am honored to support commonsense reforms to issues affecting police, oppose any efforts to defund them, and memorialize law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

I am going to memorialize four of those officers from the great State of Kansas now, who paid the ultimate price while protecting their fellow Kansans: David Leroy Ingle from Iola; Stacy Annette Murrow from Linn County; Robert Price Craft from Marion County; and Sidnee Taylor Carter from Sedgwick County. May they rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I ask everyone to join me in praying for law enforcement and in thanking your local police officers this week for their service.

HONORING DR. MARTY VANIER

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Kansan and member of the Kansas State University family, Dr. Marty Vanier, who is receiving the Jay Dillingham Award for Agricultural Leadership and Excellence this week.

The Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City selected Dr. Vanier as a recipient of this year's award for good reason. She has deep roots in Kansas agriculture, having grown up on her family's ranch where they raised commercial and registered Hereford cattle. She has held several leadership positions in the fields of veterinary pharmaceutical and food safety. She is now the director of the National Agricultural Biosecurity Center at Kansas State.

Dr. Vanier received her undergraduate degree from Kansas State. She began her career in Washington, D.C., serving with the Animal Health Institute and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In 1987, she returned to Kansas State and has since worked for the university's Department of Animal Sciences, the Office of Strategic Partnership Development for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, and the Kansas State Agricultural Biosecurity Center, which she now directs.

Dr. Vanier has the unique ability of bringing her diverse experiences to bear as an educator. She is a student,

professor, veterinarian, advocate, scientist, and philanthropist all at the same time.

Her thoughtful, systematic approach to leadership has made her a favorite in the classroom and among so many others.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Vanier on this well-deserved award.

NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH ON THE NATION'S DEBT CEILING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, Republicans aren't being honest when they tell you they are trying to negotiate in good faith on the Nation's debt ceiling.

First, this shouldn't be a negotiation; it is paying our bills we have already spent. We have lifted the debt ceiling over 80 times before, including three times during President Trump's tenure because you have to pay your bills.

Second, the legislation they passed, as an alleged negotiation, shows how drastic they would like to cut spending but can't because they can't even put specifics on paper, like the President and the Democrats have. They would love to cut programs drastically, but the cuts would hurt so many Americans they can't actually do it. That is why they haven't released a budget.

I serve on the Appropriations Committee—let me explain what the Republicans want to do. They passed a bill to cut spending to fiscal year 2022 levels. That sounds innocuous enough, but here is what it actually means. Deep cuts.

We have discretionary and nondiscretionary spending. We can't cut nondiscretionary spending like Social Security and Medicare because, well, it is your money that we hold on to as a public trust. By law, we can't cut nondiscretionary spending. That only leaves discretionary funds that can be changed.

Discretionary funds are eligible for cuts or increases, but the GOP majority further limits that by saying they won't cut Pentagon spending, amounting to over half of the discretionary funds.

That leaves a much smaller portion of the total budget to absorb all the cuts they propose, adding up to a 22 percent cut of all remaining funds. That is 22 percent of the funds that help veterans, 22 percent of the funds to protect the border, funds for Meals on Wheels programs, funds for railroad safety inspections, education, housing, and healthcare, all cut.

Think about those levels of cuts and what that effect would have on you and your family. They talk a tough game on the border, but they would cut 22 percent of the funding going to protect the border. Cutting Border Patrol and Customs officers could increase the flow of people coming into the country and cut back on searches for fentanyl and other drugs at our points of entry.

They say they want to back the blue and support our police, but 22 percent cuts to Federal law enforcement and grants to local police departments are hardly the support they need.

□ 1015

They say they support our veterans—but cut veterans' food assistance programs and housing choice vouchers, hurting tens of thousands of veterans who have bravely served. Even the PACT Act that finally made it through Congress to help veterans exposed to toxic chemicals wouldn't get the funding needed to help those who served our Nation.

It keeps going. 180,000 fewer children would have access to childcare; 10,800 fewer OSHA inspections of plants would expose workers to unsafe conditions. Drug treatment courts would lose funding, and 29,000 fewer people would be able to get treatment for opioid addiction.

There is a reason why they can't put out a full budget. It is because these types of cuts aren't workable.

It is worse. If they do fund some areas, then other areas will see even deeper cuts—30 percent or more cuts in some of the areas I just mentioned. If they don't get these cuts, then they won't pay our Nation's current bills and will force our Nation into default.

When you sign a mortgage, you can't decide whether or not you are going to send your monthly check. If you default, then you lose your house, and your credit is shot. The same is true for the Federal Government.

You would also be directly affected by Republican default. Millions of people would lose their jobs. Interest rates for home buyers and small businesses would go up overnight. Stocks would tank, sinking your retirement investments.

Congress has to pay its bills like you do, responsibly, and you do that by lifting the debt ceiling now. If not, then, Mr. President, invoke parts of the 14th Amendment to pay our bills and not damage the economy.

Enough messing around. Get the job done, House Republicans. Your constituents deserve it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, America's law enforcement officers are the best among us.

As we celebrate National Police Week this week, I am proud to join my colleagues and millions of Americans in saying thank you to the brave men and women who wear the badge.

Every day, law enforcement officers courageously save innocent lives, stop criminals, and help our communities. Yet tragically, since 1776, more than

26,000 police officers and sheriff's deputies have made the ultimate sacrifice, and in just the last 3 years alone, we have lost 1,397 officers in the line of duty. That is 26,000 too many.

Despite the countless sacrifices that our police officers and sheriff's deputies across the Nation make every day, the far left has pushed to defund the police for far too long, and our police and sheriff's officers have been under relentless attack.

With crime running rampant in communities across the country, defunding and demoralizing our law enforcement has only made communities less safe. Unfortunately, instead of taking action to give law enforcement more resources and support, liberal politicians have doubled down on soft-on-crime policies that have gotten us into this mess.

Despite this, local law enforcement officers in communities across Virginia's Sixth District and across our Nation go to work every day to protect each and every one of us, and we cannot convey our gratitude enough.

This week, House Republicans will be voting on a resolution that expresses our continued support for law enforcement officers and condemns the far left's efforts to defund the police.

We will also be voting on H.R. 2494, the POLICE Act, which will make assault on a law enforcement officer by an alien a deportable offense and important legislation that establishes a program for Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired handguns at fair market value.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans will continue to proudly back the brave men and women who wear the brown and the blue across America. As we honor National Police Week, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in support by passing these bills.

JOHN HANDLEY HIGH SCHOOL 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of Winchester, Virginia's, own John Handley High School, an endowed public school located in the heart of Shenandoah Valley.

The school's funding was launched by an 1895 grant from Judge John Handley—hence the school mascot, the "Judges," because of Handley's love of the town and its people that grew through his friends and acquaintances—and construction followed beginning in 1922.

Despite never having lived in Winchester, Judge Handley's generosity made it possible for generations of students to enhance their knowledge.

More importantly, it created an environment, a culture of support, and appreciation for public education.

With state-of-the-art facilities, cutting-edge academics, a dedicated athletic program, and an award-winning fine arts program, the John Handley High School truly sets itself apart. The school was even recently named the most beautiful high school in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Today, under the leadership of principal Susan Braithwaite, John Handley High School's thriving active student body and dedicated staff truly embody the meaning of Handley Pride.

Congratulations to John Handley High School and all the students, alumni, teachers, and staff, past and present, on this incredible milestone, and I wish the school another 100 years of success.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, the greatest threat to America's economy is our debt crisis. Even according to former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Admiral Mike Mullen, the most significant threat to America's security is our national debt.

Our financial instability today has spiraled out of control because of President Biden and the Democrats' reckless spending to fund their radical agenda.

Now our Nation faces an unsustainable \$31.7 trillion in debt.

Earlier last week, President Biden met with Speaker MCCARTHY and congressional leadership to discuss legislation to raise the debt ceiling, and to no one's surprise, Biden and Senate Democrats continued to avoid their responsibilities to negotiate.

House Republicans have already worked toward a deal by passing a sensible debt ceiling bill that will limit government spending, grow the economy, save taxpayer dollars, and protect vital benefits.

We have also done our job to stop the chaos at our southern border by passing H.R. 2, the Secure the Border Act. The security of our border is inextricably linked to the fiscal security of our Nation.

A recent cost estimate of the Secure the Border Act by the Congressional Budget Office has confirmed that Federal taxpayers are spending tens of billions of dollars on benefits for illegal immigrants like health care, nutrition, and refundable child tax credits due to Biden's current border policies.

Taking into account costs at the State and local level, American taxpayers pay \$182 billion annually for services and benefits to illegal immigrants.

At the end of the day, blank government checks got us into this debt crisis, and a no-strings-attached debt ceiling increase will only serve to push our already fragile economy off the fiscal cliff.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to act, and I urge the President to join us at the table.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to thank the men and women who work every day to keep our communities safe and to honor those

who have given their lives in service to our communities.

As the daughter of a retired career law enforcement officer and as a former Federal agent, I know the responsibilities, the pressure, and the stress that can come with putting on the badge.

I stand here today during this National Police Week to honor Virginia's Seventh District and the officers who call it home.

Across our Commonwealth, we reflect on the service and the sacrifice of our community's law enforcement officers. As the Representative for Virginia's Seventh District, it is my great privilege to represent so many public servants: the men and women who have answered the call to serve their fellow Americans, their neighbors, and our communities.

This week and every day, we remember their colleagues and friends—those who never returned home. In their absence, our communities, our Commonwealth, and our country have felt tremendous loss.

Today, on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, I am honored to read the names of fallen officers from Virginia's Seventh District. May they never be forgotten and may their service and their sacrifice inspire their fellow law enforcement officers to continue to serve and protect.

From the Prince William County Police Department: Police Officer Ashley Marie Guindon, Police Officer Chris Yung, Police Officer Philip Michael "Mike" Pennington, and Police Officer Paul Thomas "Pete" White, Jr.

From the Prince William County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Sheriff David William Myers, Jr.

From the Stafford County Sheriff's Office:

Deputy Sheriff Jason Edward Mooney and Deputy Sheriff Ford T. Humphrey.

From the Fredericksburg Police Department:

Police Officer Todd Allen Bahr, Officer William Franklin Mines, Sergeant Roy Glen Wright, and Officer Ellsworth Alexander Moore.

From the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office: Captain James Anthony Sisk and Deputy Sheriff George Robert Lillard, Jr.

From the King George County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Sheriff Craig Lamont Brooks.

From the Caroline County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Sheriff Strother W. "Ted" Lewis, Sr.

From the Greene County Sheriff's Office: Investigator Chadwick Alan Carr and Sergeant Rodney Lee Davis.

From the Orange County Sheriff's Office: Sheriff William B. "Willie" Young and Sheriff Willie C. Bond.

From the Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office: Deputy Sheriff Bryan Marshall Berger, Deputy Sheriff Dean Ridings, and Detective Richard Lee Samuels.

This week, we remember these officers, these Virginians, and these he-

roes. They are someone's loved one, fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, children. Their names are not only remembered here in the U.S. Capitol and throughout the Halls of Congress, but their sacrifices are honored throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

These officers were dedicated public servants. They were valued loved ones across our communities, and they represented the best of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, during National Police Week, I thank the public servants who protect the U.S. Capitol every single day, those who stand watch over the very function of our democracy.

I know I stand with my colleagues expressing gratitude and appreciation for the U.S. Capitol Police.

On January 6, 2012, their heroism alongside that of the Metropolitan Police Department protected Members of Congress, Capitol employees, staff, and our very democracy. More than 150 police officers were injured that day, and yet they still stand strong, committed to their duty.

As the Representative for Virginia's Seventh District, I am proud to represent many of the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police in Congress, and I am committed to making sure that they have the resources, support, financial security, and retirements they deserve and have earned through their selfless sacrifice.

It is the least we can do in return for their professionalism, their fervent commitment to duty, their devotion to our country, and their work every day in the Halls of Congress.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, during National Police Week, we honor our men and women in blue for their courage, dedication, and commitment to preserving law and order in our communities. We also remember the fallen, those who made the ultimate selfless sacrifice in the line of duty.

On this National Police Week, Congress has the unique opportunity to not just say we back the blue but to actually take a stand against a misguided law that severely hinders the ability of police officers in this very city from protecting and serving the American people.

The D.C. City Council's so-called police reform bill—the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Emergency Amendment Act—creates very serious undue burdens on the Metropolitan Police Department. Amidst the raging crime crisis terrorizing the streets here in our Nation's Capital, this law, which for 2 years has been in effect under emergency legislative powers, puts criminals first and MPD officers last.

MPD officers overwhelmingly oppose the D.C. Council's anti-police law, and they are making it known with their

feet. Since this legislation has been in place, the MPD has lost more than 1,100 officers and currently operates at a 500-officer deficit. As officers are leaving the force in droves, faster than they can be replaced, the Metropolitan Police Department has drastically shrunk to a historic half-century low.

Due to my commitment to our Constitution and passion for restoring law and order in our Nation's Capital, I introduced a resolution, H.J. Res. 42, to repeal the D.C. Council's harmful law.

Last month this body passed my commonsense measure by a bipartisan vote garnering the support of 14 House Democrats. By passing my resolution, the House firmly rejected the council's anti-police law, reaffirming our support of heroic law enforcement officers and underscored the importance of protecting Americans' safety here in Washington.

It is now up to the Senate to act before it is too late.

Thankfully, today Senators will vote on H.J. Res. 42 as Senator J.D. VANCE is leading the fight to repeal the D.C. Council's anti-police law. During this vote Senators will face a very simple question: On National Police Week do they stand with the officers of the Metropolitan Police Department, or do they embolden violent criminals who continue to torment and attack Americans in our Nation's Capital?

Earlier this year when Congress was confronted with a similar question as we considered my previous D.C.-related resolution, H.J. Res. 26, to block the D.C. Council's soft-on-crime Revised Criminal Code Act, we had 31 Democrats in both the House and the Senate join our effort to strike down this radical law that would eliminate minimum sentences and reduce maximum penalties for numerous violent criminal offenses.

I now call on these same 31 Senate Democrats to join our fight, yet again, by passing H.J. Res. 42 because failure to do so will only drive out more Metropolitan Police Department officers and deter officers from joining the force, meaning Washington will have fewer police officers on the streets to combat the dangerous crime crisis plaguing our Nation's Capital.

While D.C.'s local leadership shamelessly refuses to admit there is a crime crisis in Washington, the data reveals that the crime crisis is not only real, but that it is getting worse. Compared to last year, violent crime is up 13 percent as the city has already faced more than 80 homicides in just the first 4½ months of 2023. Property crime has increased by a whopping 30 percent, and total crime overall is up 27 percent.

□ 1030

Clearly, the crime crisis in our Nation's Capital is dire, which is why residents, small businesses, visitors, and the brave officers of the Metropolitan Police Department are counting on Congress to act. They are depending on

us to use our authority outlined in Article I, Section 8, Clause 17 of the Constitution to prevent our Nation's Capital from becoming the next New York City, Chicago, or San Francisco. They are calling on us to support MPD officers, help them restore law and order, and improve public safety in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Senate to put people over politics. Join our effort to repeal the D.C. Council's antipolice law and send this commonsense bill, H.J. Res. 42, to the President's desk.

I implore President Biden to abandon his senseless veto threat so we can take another crucial step in bolstering the ranks of the Metropolitan Police Department and boosting public safety in D.C.

We shoulder the responsibility and the authority to make our Nation's Capital a safer place for all Americans, and we cannot take this duty lightly. It is time for the Senate to take a stand in not only protecting Americans in Washington but in protecting MPD officers who risk their lives to defend law and order in D.C.

On this National Police Week, fulfilling our constitutional duty to strike down a law that will continue to severely damage the Metropolitan Police Department is the least we can do to show that we do, in fact, always back the blue.

RECOGNIZING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MOLINARO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

One in six students is experiencing childhood mental health disorders. Among adults, that number jumps to one in five.

Our Nation is facing a mental health crisis, and it requires urgent action. For too long, mental health has been a topic that people have been afraid to openly discuss.

It carries with it a stigma that has prevented people from getting the care they need. I know this firsthand. Having been raised by a single mom with undiagnosed depression, I know the challenges that many families face. While grateful for her love, I knew the struggles that she lived with.

Talking about mental health simply isn't enough. We must work hard to break down and break through barriers and encourage more people to seek the help they need.

That requires us as a nation and as communities to invest more and to help ensure anyone who needs mental health treatment can access it.

I spent much of the last 12 years as a local elected official building up the most comprehensive community-based mental health model in the country. It is now, today, the model that New

York State uses, and it is critically important that we expand the reach and the ability of individuals to access community-based mental health treatment.

In upstate New York, we have incredible providers like the Mental Health Association of the Southern Tier. Unfortunately, these providers are stretched thin and face growing demand. They need our help.

That is why we must increase Federal commitment to mental health programming and incentivize mental health education to boost the pipeline of qualified practitioners.

As we recognize Mental Health Awareness Month, we must increase our commitment to addressing the mental health crisis in our communities.

This is an issue that transcends party and politics. By working together, we can build communities where everyone has the support they need to live out a full, healthy, and fulfilling life.

HONORING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with many of my colleagues in honor of National Police Week. I join Members across this country in recognizing the brave men and women who serve in Federal, State, county, and local law enforcement.

I especially acknowledge and recognize the men and women of law enforcement throughout upstate New York, the county, State, and local men and women who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

Sadly, however, they don't get the recognition that they deserve, and appreciation, while well deserved, is simply not enough.

New York State passed cashless bail reforms that have allowed dangerous criminals to be released and remain in our communities and on our streets, reoffending, creating new victims, undermining law enforcement, and diminishing public safety.

These laws make it harder and more dangerous to be a law enforcement official or a police officer. It is no wonder our police officers are leaving the profession in record numbers.

Here in Congress, we are moving this week to pass bills to show our support and appreciation for law enforcement and to prove again that we have their backs. We defend those who defend us and vigorously oppose the defund and defame the police movement, not just because it is the right thing to do but because it will further protect our police officers and enhance community safety.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize all of those men and women who serve and sacrifice every day, and we are grateful to them and their families.

May they always come home to a family that loves them and a community that supports them.

OPPOSING A BAN ON LEAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife proposal regulating and banning lead ammo and fishing tackle from our public lands across this country.

So many of us grew up hunting and fishing with our parents, our grandparents, and our friends. Some of my best memories are with my kids and grandkids when I have taken them hunting and fishing in those quiet moments that we have together when we can talk about life lessons and about the things that, as families, we need to pass on.

These traditions will cease to exist if we allow this proposal to come into effect by U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

In my opinion, enjoying the great outdoors with our friends and families is one of the most important and special parts of the American Dream. Unfortunately, the Biden administration is planning to impose more rules and regulations even on our most basic rights.

I have huge concerns over these actions. Low-cost lead for ammunition and fishing gear made of lead is commonly used by all of us. Banning them will essentially be the same as putting a "no hunting" sign on millions of acres of land and kicking people off waterways across this Nation.

Access to hunting and fishing on public land is important in this country, and we cannot allow the Biden administration to take away these rights because they would rather listen to the far-left environmentalist groups than trust the science and leave law-abiding Americans alone.

Whether they are attempting to ban gas stoves, force expensive electric vehicles on everyone, or tell us what kind of ammunition we can hunt with or what type of fishing lures we can use, this administration seems determined to chip away at our constitutional rights.

Many years ago, I took a hunter safety course from a blind gentleman who could no longer see to hunt and fish, but his way of reliving all of those memories was teaching a hunter safety course. He taught me that you will never control guns because you can make a gun out of virtually anything.

The way to control guns, by an old gunsmith who is living his dreams through his blind eyes, is ammunition. Don't think for a second this lead bill is about wildlife. This bill is about controlling the lead that we use in our guns and not controlling the guns themselves. This man had wisdom. This was 30 years ago. It has just taken them a little while to get to it.

What is the next step? Will the next step be banning all lead from being used in hunting? How is that going to limit our hunting? Who is that going to limit that can afford to hunt?

This is a slippery slope we don't have to go down. We have to stop it now. We cannot give them the first bite of the apple by saying that we cannot use lead on government property.

I can promise you that I will do all I can to stop this from happening and ensure that this administration can try to do nothing similar to this.

I encourage all American hunting and fishing clubs, whether you are a shooter, a hunter, a fisherman of any type, to do something. Speak out. Talk to your legislators. Reach out to the President. Make some phone calls. Let your voice be heard today.

Don't wait until after something gets passed because this proposal will kill our sport as we know it, and we have to fight back.

MALIGN CCP INFLUENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Energy and the FBI have affirmed that the COVID pandemic most likely originated from a leak of the SARS-CoV-2 from the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

The deadly COVID virus was unleashed on American soil in 2020, yet it took 3 years and a new majority in Congress to finally start investigating the malign influence of the barbaric Chinese Communist Party.

COVID was not the CCP's only flagrant and unsparing attempt to infiltrate American sovereignty. Earlier this year, spy balloons floated along the United States and gathered intelligence from sensitive U.S. military sites.

Just last month, two CCP spies were arrested, and 36 CCP police officers were charged with operating an illegal and secret police station in New York City—the two alleged CCP spies only to be quickly granted bail and released from custody.

In 2020, leaked CCP member data confirmed that U.S. companies such as Boeing, Qualcomm, and Pfizer had employed dozens of CCP members in their Chinese facilities.

Rightfully so, Americans are infuriated, blaming ivory towers in Washington, D.C., and Wall Street for being slow to the punch and handing over its fragile dominion over to globalists.

We ought to do better. We ought to protect Americans, and we ought to preserve democracy.

This is why I am unapologetically pushing back on the CCP and calling on the House Judiciary Committee, the DOJ, and the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government to investigate CCP infiltration into the U.S. Government and do all they can to free Miles Guo.

In 2017, the CCP's most prominent critic, Miles Guo, claimed political asylum in the United States, alleging persecution by the CCP. He has been here for about 6 years. Just last month,

Guo was arrested and denied bail for being pronounced a flight risk.

In this case, the charges against Miles Guo are simply a part of an organized campaign of political persecution brought against him by the CCP.

As a matter of fact, in November 2018, George Higginbotham, a senior official at the DOJ, pleaded guilty to his active role in this illegal campaign. He admitted to accepting \$41 million from the CCP and meeting with the Vice Minister of Public Security of China to advance the removal of Guo from the United States.

It is with great dismay but complete confidence that I say that the weaponization of the United States' prosecutorial system is spinning further out of control, and it is time we take a stand.

It shows when we have a national crime crisis falling by the wayside because politically motivated campaigns designed for nothing other than retribution on political agitators keep getting in the way of our leading law enforcement officials who refuse to prioritize the American people.

With each passing year, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the CCP is accomplishing its goal of insidiously infiltrating the United States.

All the while, perpetrators, the real threat to the American people, are let out on the streets, and harmless political targets remain behind bars with justice denied.

Mr. Speaker, I speak for every American when I say we are done tucking our tails and being at the losing end of every tradeoff with the CCP.

They take our jobs, use our technology, and steal our intellectual property. In turn, we got robbed, spied on, and deadly viruses.

Enough is enough. Free Miles Guo.

□ 1045

AM RADIO IS ESSENTIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I grew up on AM radio: listening to the news; listening to Dr. Demento; the "CBS Radio Mystery Theater," falling asleep at night in my bed while listening to that on the weekends; and Rush Limbaugh, who not too long ago sat right up there in that gallery recognized by President Trump. I even interned for the late Larry King. I love AM radio.

I rise today to address an urgent concern that is impacting our Nation's heartland and America in general: the decision by some car and truck manufacturers to eliminate, do away with, AM radio from their systems, including the F-150, the Ford F-150 that is made in Claycomo, near Kansas City, not too far from my district.

You see, AM radio is an essential platform for conservative voices like Pete Mundo and Chris Stigall and listeners who rely on the truth that they

hear from AM stations, like KCMO, KRMS, KMMO, KOKO, KDRO, KWTO, and KSGF.

AM radio is the lifeblood of information for our farmers and ranchers in particular, providing crucial updates on weather patterns, market shifts, and agricultural news. It is also a vital platform for emergency information. Under the Communications Act of 1934, AM radio is there for a reason. It is there to operate in the public interest, and that is exactly what it does.

Mr. Speaker, farmers are the backbone of our Nation's food security, yet they operate in some of the most isolated regions, often lacking access to modern high-speed internet or digital services.

Did you know, Mr. Speaker, that there are more than 4,000 AM radio stations in the United States, with more than a third dedicated to agricultural programming? That is one-third of the stations. That is a big number.

This is not a dying medium, Mr. Speaker. It is a vibrant network that connects diverse communities across our Nation. We must remind our car manufacturers to consider the wider impact of their decisions.

Let's make sure that conservative voices are protected. Let's make sure that emergency communications are protected, as well, for our farmers and ranchers in particular. Let's make sure our rural communities, our farmers and ranchers, the unsung heroes of our Nation, remain connected, remain informed, and remain respected.

Mr. Speaker, in the 1980s, I remember when MTV first came on and the little jingle, "I want my MTV."

Mr. Speaker, it is 2023, and I want my AM radio.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, You, O Lord, are our strength and our shield. In You do we find trust and find our refuge. In protecting us against threats of harm, defending us in the face of danger, You have set among us brave men and women who have taken up the shield of service. This National Police Week, hear our prayers of gratitude for their

commitment to uphold and defend the peace in our communities, our country, and the Capitol.

Remind us, O Lord, that the security they so dutifully provide comes at considerable personal cost to them. The long hours and relentless pressure to stand yet another extra watch steal precious time away from their loved ones. Their commitment to providing unwavering protection for those in their charge has too often demanded of them the ultimate measure of their sacrifice.

For these countless acts of dedication, their selfless service, and their heroism, for the 556 men and women whose names were added to the National Law Enforcement Memorial this year, and for all who have gone above and beyond, paying the final price in their efforts to safeguard the citizens of our Nation, we pray Your blessing be upon their families, and we pray Your assurance that their deaths will not be in vain.

Bless the righteous, O Lord, and cover them with Your favor. In the strength of Your name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FULCHER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Deirdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. VALADAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Police Week, a time to thank our brave men and women in law enforcement and honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Police departments in small communities, like many in the Central Valley, struggle to have enough funding to recruit, train, and provide resources for their officers. As I meet with law enforcement across my district, I hear firsthand just how much stress is being placed on these officers, who are consistently being asked to do more with less resources.

Despite all of this, our police officers still wake up each morning, put their uniforms on, and go into our communities to uphold their oath to protect and serve, knowing very well that they may not come home that night.

It is critical that we continue to fully fund our law enforcement and ensure they have the resources they need to keep themselves and our communities safe.

I thank all of our police officers and law enforcement both in the Central Valley and across the country for their selfless dedication to service and for keeping our communities safe.

SUPPORTING MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, one of the major reasons people get readmitted to the hospital is what is in their cabinet at home or, more notably, what isn't.

A poor diet, combined with conditions like heart disease and diabetes, contributes to a staggering number of hospital readmissions every day.

Finally, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is providing greater flexibility for those using and paying for medically tailored meals. For those too sick to cook, these prepared and delivered medically tailored meals often make all the difference.

It has been a long road to get here. I have introduced legislation on this, launched the Food is Medicine Working Group, and uplifted organizations across America that prepare these meals.

We still need to push for medically tailored meals to be a covered Medicare benefit, but this is great news and one of the many transformative changes stemming from last year's White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health. It will make opening the pantry less painful for our neighbors and help end hunger now.

HITTING THE DEBT CEILING

(Mr. FULCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, in approximately 2 weeks, our country will hit its debt ceiling.

House Republicans understand that this would be disastrous for our already fragile economy. That is why we

took decisive action to address this crisis responsibly and sensibly by passing the Limit, Save, Grow Act. This legislation would not only end the debt limit crisis, but it would also address the root cause of that crisis: Washington's irresponsible spending.

Since President Biden took office, the 10-year trajectory on Federal spending has increased by a staggering \$10 trillion.

While House Republicans have been hard at work crafting solutions to the debt ceiling, this administration and House Democrats have wasted valuable time, putting our Nation's financial stability at risk.

Two weeks ago, the White House press secretary flatly said the President is "not going to negotiate on the debt ceiling." That is critical time that could have been spent on negotiations, not political stunts.

To make matters worse, President Biden is now leaving for an 8-day trip to Asia as our country teeters on the brink of default.

It is time for the other side to stop playing politics. We are out of time.

HONORING ROBERT SHISLER

(Mr. NORCROSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of one of New Jersey's finest, Deptford Township Officer Robert "Bobby" Shisler, who died last week after being shot in the line of duty in March. He was just 27 years old.

Born and raised in Deptford, Officer Shisler dedicated his life to serving and protecting his community. He served Deptford with honor and integrity and made south Jersey a better, safer place for all of us.

We must never forget the ultimate sacrifice made by the officer and all those who wear the uniform who protect us. We will always remember Officer Shisler for the hero that he is.

I am keeping his family, his friends, his fellow law enforcement officers, and the entire Deptford community in my thoughts and prayers.

May he rest in peace.

SAVE22 AND VETERANS SUICIDE

(Mr. MILLER of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, veteran suicide is a tragedy that claims far too many of America's heroes.

We lost 6,146 veterans that we know of from suicide in 2020 alone. That is about three times as many soldiers as we lost in Afghanistan from hostile action.

This is tragic, but any veterans listening should know that America is in their corner.

On May 6, I had the opportunity to join the patriots of Save22 for a veteran suicide awareness hike in

Massillon, Ohio. Similar events will happen across the country. Go to one to let our heroes know that they matter.

Veterans in crisis may call 988 and then press 1 if they need immediate support.

To our heroes listening: Please know that we are here for you and that we will never forget your service and sacrifice to our Nation.

May God bless our veterans.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2494, PROTECT OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3091, FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SERVICE WEAPON PURCHASE ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 40, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CONDEMNING EFFORTS TO DEFUND OR DISMANTLE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 398 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 398

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2494) to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-4. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion

of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3091) to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-5. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 40) expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies. All points of order against consideration of the concurrent resolution are waived. The concurrent resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the concurrent resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution and preamble, and on any amendment thereto, to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and con-

trolled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) the amendment printed in part C of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be in order without intervention of any point of order, shall be considered as read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

□ 1215

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we are here to debate the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2494, the Protect Our Law Enforcement with Immigration Control and Enforcement Act of 2023, or the POLICE Act; H.R. 3091, the Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act; and H. Con. Res. 40, expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies.

It provides for structured rules for all three bills and makes in order Democratic as well as Republican amendments.

Given all that our police officers do for our communities each and every day, I am honored to stand here in defense of this legislation to support them.

According to the FBI, assaults on law enforcement officers increased by 11.2 percent from 2020 to 2021. Many of these violent crimes have been committed by illegal aliens. As this administration continues to let the crisis at the border spiral out of control, these types of assaults will continue to increase.

There are things we can do to deter criminal assaults and protect our officers. The POLICE Act would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clearly state that the assault of a law enforcement officer is a deportable offense. If those who have been given the privilege of coming here cannot respect our laws or those who enforce them,

they should not enjoy the benefit of remaining in our country.

The second bill under consideration today, H.R. 3091, would allow law enforcement officers to buy retired and surplus military service weapons at fair market value, so long as the officer is in good standing with their employed agency. Under current law, Federal law enforcement agencies are required to destroy retired and unneeded firearms. The Fraternal Order of Police estimates that this wastes up to \$8 million a year. This bill is a commonsense solution to save taxpayer dollars and support law enforcement officers.

Finally, H. Con. Res. 40 expresses Congress' support for local law enforcement officers and condemns efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies.

Unfortunately, because there are people out there, even some serving in Congress, who want to defund the police and want to continue the anti-law enforcement rhetoric, this bill is necessary.

In a time when police officers are regularly attacked for their profession, 2021 being the deadliest year in two decades for law enforcement officers, according to the FBI, it can never be stated enough that the U.S. Congress supports this country's police officers.

The brave men and women across this Nation who risk their lives every day need to know that we condemn any efforts to defund them, and we support them. They need to know that we stand with them and are here to do everything in our power to protect them in the way they protect and serve our communities. That is why I encourage my colleagues to stand with me and support these pieces of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I begin today with a story. Once upon a time in Congress, House Republicans put forward their top agenda, a package of bills so crucial, so urgent, that teeing them up for consideration was one of the very first things we did on the floor of this Congress—after, of course, KEVIN MCCARTHY's 15 votes for Speaker.

Tucked into this package was a little bill about supporting the police, H. Con. Res. 5, a simple, nonbinding resolution, really, that didn't do much. It was purely symbolic, but it did express support for our Nation's police, all of our Nation's police.

But something mysterious happened, Mr. Speaker, and I hope you will join me in trying to solve that mystery today.

Instead of bringing their bill up right away, Republicans waited, and they waited, and they waited. They waited until this week, and they brought up a bill, but something changed. See, in the original bill, the language read

that Congress expresses support for the Nation's law enforcement agencies.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, "Nation's," "Nation's." It was about all of our police. In their new bill, the one that we are considering today, they only express support for local enforcement officers.

Here is the new bill, Mr. Speaker. We see the word "local," "local"—nothing about our Nation's law enforcement officers, just "local." Huh. That is weird. What a strange change.

It is National Police Week, but they took out all of our national police agencies. Democrats searched and searched and searched for a reason. We looked high and low in the Rules Committee, but we couldn't find an answer.

Not a single person, not one Republican, Mr. Speaker, has been able to articulate to us who made that change, when it was made, or, most importantly, why it was made.

No one was able to explain to us why Republicans edited their bill from saying "any efforts to defund or dismantle law enforcement agencies" to any "efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies."

Here is the important thing, and call it the moral of the story, if you will. The change was not without consequence because what the GOP did was cut out every officer at the FBI, ATF, CBP, U.S. Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Federal Protective Service, and Secret Service. They cut out every officer at the United States Capitol Police. They cut out the police who are standing outside these Chamber doors right now, keeping us safe. They cut out all the police who rushed to this building to keep all of my GOP friends safe on January 6, 2021.

Apparently, our Republican colleagues think National Police Week shouldn't include our national police.

I wish I could say that this was an unsolved mystery, I really do, but the answer is obvious, Mr. Speaker. The new Republican position is that they only support some police.

The new Republican position as of 2 weeks ago is that they want to defund police. They voted to cut COPS grants, fire 400 local police officers, defund the FBI, and cut grant funding for State and local law enforcement agencies.

The new Republican position, as put forward by their frontrunner for President, is that we ought to pardon the convicted criminals, white supremacists, and neo-Nazis who beat cops, crushed them in doors, and hit them with fire extinguishers on January 6.

The new Republican position is to give GEORGE SANTOS due process before he is kicked out but to deport legal immigrants who haven't even been charged with a crime.

Here is what I see today, Mr. Speaker. It seems like Republicans back the blue until they realize that laws apply to them, too.

That gets me to my final point because an important change is happening here today, and I want law en-

forcement officers across this country to take note. I know many of them are watching because it is police week, National Police Week, and here is what I want them to know: Democrats want to keep communities safe.

Democrats want to address gun violence in our schools, an issue I hear from police officers about all the time.

Democrats want to invest in programs that keep our communities safe, programs that get to the root causes of crime.

Democrats want to make sure police aren't put in situations they aren't trained to handle.

Democrats have passed bills that protect our communities and support our police, bills to help cops with PTSD and to invest in small police departments.

Republicans want to wrap their arms around the police while they cut funding.

Make sure we don't forget this, Mr. Speaker: 21 Republicans voted against awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the Capitol Police—21.

Republicans changed their bill to deliberately exclude America's national police agencies from National Police Week, which dishonors and disrespects the Capitol Police officers who protect our Capitol Building.

Republicans are using our law enforcement officers like political pawns. They are putting politics over public safety.

It is clear, Mr. Speaker, that my Republican friends have lost their way on law enforcement today, and it is clear who is in charge. It is not Speaker MCCARTHY. It is the most extreme of the extreme, and once again, the American people lose.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues not to make excuses about this legislation, not to say that it doesn't have this, it has this, or you changed this because they are playing word games.

The public is watching, and law enforcement officers are watching. Today, with your "yes" vote on this legislation, you can show your support for law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER).

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and fellow Rules Committee member, Representative FISCHBACH, for the time.

A quick history lesson.

June 2020, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS applauded former L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti's decision to slash police funding by \$150 million.

Representative OCASIO-CORTEZ has stated, "defunding police means defunding police," an exact quote.

Representative CORI BUSH has said that she would "make sure" she has private security for her protection while simultaneously promising to defund the police that protect you.

Representative TLAIB has said: “No more policing, incarceration, and militarization.”

Representative OMAR has stated: Not only do we need to defund, we need to dismantle police departments.

What has been the result? What has been the result of these attacks on law enforcement? Well, 2021 was the deadliest year in two decades for our law enforcement officers.

Mr. Speaker, 64 officers were shot and killed in the line of duty in 2022. Just to put that in perspective, that is a 40 percent increase from 2020.

At least nine cities, the vast majority of which are Democrat-controlled cities, saw record homicides last year and skyrocketing crime that continues to plague our communities all across the country.

Right here in D.C., for example, we are already seeing a 13 percent rise in violent crime in 2023 compared with 2022 when crime was already at near-historic levels.

Democrats are now trying to deflect responsibility for this rise in crime, but it is their own far-left radical policies that are to blame.

It is essential that we make it clear that Congress, at least this Republican majority, condemns all efforts to dismantle and defund our Nation’s police officers.

Mr. Speaker, for those reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and support the underlying piece of legislation.

□ 1230

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota if she could respond to a question that we couldn’t get an answer to in the Rules Committee last night as to why Republicans did not bring up their original bill, H. Con. Res. 5, the one that they made in order with their opening day rules package.

I don’t know whether she can explain it to me. I am happy to yield her some time to do that. The silence is deafening, Mr. Speaker, because the question that we asked in the Rules Committee last night that nobody could answer is, in their original bill we honored our entire Nation’s law enforcement, including the Capitol Police, who protected us on January 6. However, the bill they bring up today changed all that and basically narrowed it down to local police but took out any recognition of our Capitol Police or any of our Federal law enforcement officers.

The gentlewoman will not answer the question. Nobody in the Rules Committee would answer the question.

To the gentleman from Pennsylvania who just spoke, who was talking about defunding the police, I will tell you, when I was the chairman of the Rules Committee, we didn’t bring any resolutions to the floor to defund the police.

Two weeks ago, my Republican friends voted to cut money for local

law enforcement and for our Federal law enforcement agencies. They are the ones who voted to defund the police. Just don’t believe me; you can Google it. Check it out. Two weeks ago, their bill that they brought to the floor will cut law enforcement agencies.

Give me a break, Mr. Speaker.

Again, the idea that my Republican friends made a conscious decision to remove the Capitol Police from a resolution honoring our Nation’s police is beyond the pale.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a letter from the Department of Justice regarding the cuts proposed within the Republicans’ debt limit bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL,

Washington, DC.

Hon. ROSA DELAURIO,
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE DELAURIO: This responds to your letter to the Department of Justice (Department), dated January 19, 2023, regarding the impact on the Department’s ability to achieve its public safety mission if fiscal year (FY) 2024 discretionary spending is capped at the FY 2022 enacted level. Funding the Department at FY 2022 enacted levels would result in a significant reduction to the Department’s budget calculated to be much as 22% below FY 2023 enacted level and more than \$4 billion below what the Department would require to sustain even its base functions (current services) in FY 2024. A 22% reduction in the Department’s discretionary funding would be a loss of more than \$8 billion that is needed for the Department to accomplish its public safety and national security responsibilities.

A funding reduction of 22% in a single year would result in significant furloughs or reductions in force (RIFs) across many components. In addition, components would need to cancel dozens of contracts (including contracts for investigative and litigation tools and technologies); freeze equipment purchases (resulting in reliance on inferior and/or obsolete equipment); eliminate operational training (which would hinder operations and employee development); and reduce operational travel (which could prolong investigations and limit Department’s efficacy). All this would result in a delay of services and outcomes important to the nation and the American justice system.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) would see an effective reduction of \$2.8 billion were a funding reduction of 22% imposed, which would negate nine years of growth in the FBI’s key programs. The effect on the FBI’s personnel would be the loss of roughly 11,000 positions, or 29.2% of the FBI’s workforce. The FBI would be required to undertake a furlough of 60 days on a staggered basis. The lost work-years due to a hiring freeze and furloughs are the equivalent of the FBI shuttering 11 of its largest field offices (New York City, Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, Newark, Boston, Philadelphia, Detroit, and Houston). The non-personnel costs alone, approximately \$1.0 billion of the reduction, would be the equivalent of eliminating all of the FBI’s Headquarters Divisions in the Criminal Branch, Intelligence Branch, and National Security Branch combined.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) assesses that the 22% cut will result in a hiring freeze that would mean 190 agents, 130 Industry Operations Investigators, and 180 technical and support staff would be lost to attrition. Further, ATF would have to take 36 furlough days for all of its over 5,000 employees, including agents. Such a large reduction would: reduce operational funding (mission-related activity, contracts, vehicle maintenance), normal replacement cycle activity, provision of Emergency Support Function #13 (assistance to local, state, Tribal, territorial, and Federal organizations overwhelmed by the results of an actual or anticipated natural/manmade disaster or an act of terrorism), the K-9 program; eliminate all state and local training at National Center for Explosives Training and Research; start a backlog of regulatory inspections that will take years to clear; and increase trace times by more than two months at the National Tracing Center due to reduced staff. Finally, a funding reduction of 22% would severely hamper ATF’s ability to fully take advantage of the tools provided by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), in addition to substantially diminishing the effectiveness of ATF’s overall mission. The consequential negative effect on public safety would be that fewer ATF Special Agents would be available to assist law enforcement in communities across the country. Without appropriate funding, ATF would be unable to make critical enhancements needed to improve public safety in the fight against firearm related violent crime.

The U.S. Marshals Service’s (USMS) foremost mission is to protect the Federal judicial process. Due to mandatory requirements for judicial and courthouse security, witness protection, and prisoner detention, a reduction of 22% below the FY 2023 enacted level would cause delays in the judicial system and disproportionately impact the fugitive apprehension mission and the agency’s ability to remove violent offenders from the streets. With a 22% reduction, the USMS would implement a hard hiring freeze, which would result in the inability to replace an estimated 221 Deputy US Marshals (DUSMs) and 135 other employees. The USMS would also have to execute a furlough of 22 days for all employees, and conduct a RIF for 650 employees, including an estimated 214 DUSMs. The USMS would eliminate all performance awards and promotion opportunities and reduce funding to fugitive surveillance, Special Operations, judicial security, and body-worn camera programs. Finally, a 22% reduction would create an insolvency in the Federal Prisoner Detention appropriation of \$467.7 million, an amount that the Department could not legally resolve through transfers from other accounts due to limitations imposed on interappropriation transfers in each year’s appropriations act.

On March 15, 2022, the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (VAWA 2022) was enacted. VAWA 2022 authorized multiple new programs for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), three of which received their first appropriations in the FY 2023 enacted budget: the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) Specific Services Program; the Abby Honold Act (which fund trauma-informed, victim-centered training for law enforcement); and the Tribal Reimbursement Program for Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction.

Funding levels of 22% below the FY 2023 enacted level means that programs newly established by VAWA 2022 would not be funded at all or funded only through reductions to existing programs. OVW also calculates that operating at the lower level would mean approximately 40 fewer awards could be made

to grantees in key programs like the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program and the Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program that provide key services to states and to victims of sexual violence. For OVW generally, these cuts would result in fewer victims served over subsequent years, disproportionately heavy impacts on vulnerable communities, and threats to the sustainability of crucial programming that holds offenders accountable.

The impacts on other Department grantmaking would be detrimental as well. For example, if the Department's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office were to operate at a 22% below the FY 2023 enacted level, the COPS Hiring Program would be required to significantly reduce the funding it provides both as to the number of positions it supports and in the number of awards that it makes (reduction of approximately \$50 million). It would also decrease the number of law enforcement positions funded by 300 to 400 positions and only be able to support approximately 1,060 law enforcement positions. Finally, only about 200 awards would be made to support law enforcement agencies, a reduction of 60 awards from FY 2023 enacted.

Additionally, a 22% reduction could lead to significant cuts to the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). Operating at a level 22% below FY 2023 enacted levels would be a reduction of almost \$650 million to OJP's discretionary appropriations. If OJP experienced a full 22% reduction, its mission to improve the nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims, and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems would be drastically reduced as further described below.

Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Formula awards to local governments would be expected to drop by an average of \$30,000 from \$98,000 to \$68,000 and State awards could decrease on average by \$1.0 million per state from \$3.4 million to \$2.4 million. JAG is the leading source of Federal justice funding to State and local jurisdictions. A 22% cut in assistance would negatively impact a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, as well as drug treatment and enforcement.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II Formula awards would be projected to be reduced by an average of \$294,000. This would drop the average award from \$843,000 to \$549,000. Cuts from this formula program would reduce critical support to States and localities in their efforts to reform juvenile justice and strengthen prevention, early intervention, and treatment programming for at-risk and delinquent youth. Training and technical assistance that has been shown to reduce racial and ethnic disparities among youth in juvenile justice would be curtailed.

DNA Analysis and Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program would see estimated reductions of \$205,000 per award, dropping the average award from \$775,000 to \$570,000. These reductions would negatively impact the capacity of labs across the Nation to process DNA samples that are used by law enforcement to reduce violent crime, support prosecutors in their efforts to meet their mission, and create safer communities.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) would see a reduction of \$40.7 million, which would be the equivalent of cutting 25 awards (from 86 to 61). COSSUP's purpose is to provide financial and technical assistance to States, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop, implement, or expand

comprehensive efforts to identify, respond to, treat, and support those impacted by illicit opioids, stimulants and other drugs use.

Drug Treatment Courts would see a reduction of \$19.4 million, which would be the equivalent of cutting 27 awards (from 63 to 36). These courts effectively integrate evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, random drug testing, equitable sanctions and incentives, and recovery support services in judicially supervised court settings to reduce recidivism and substance use and misuse, as well as prevent overdoses. These cuts in services to those with substance use disorders would come in the midst of our nation's current overdose crisis.

Victims of Human Trafficking Programs would see a reduction of \$19.4 million, which would be the equivalent of cutting 26 awards (from 99 to 73). These programs are intended to improve outcomes for victims of human trafficking. These resources are a key source of funding for jurisdictions working on coordinated, multidisciplinary, approaches to serving trafficked victims.

To reach an overall budget reduction of 22% from the FY 2023 enacted level, the U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs) would need to identify over \$620 million in reductions in a single year—nearly five times the cut from sequestration in FY 2013. Reductions of this magnitude will have a detrimental and lasting impact on the USAOs' ability to carry out its mission. In order to absorb this shortfall, the USAOs will not only need to implement a complete hiring freeze and the maximum 22-day furlough of the entire direct workforce of approximately 10,000 employees, but also implement a RIF of approximately 2,000 employees. The combined effect of the hiring freeze and the RIF is a 28% reduction of the workforce in a single year. In addition, non-personnel expenses would be reduced by over 30%. These reductions would severely impact the prosecutorial abilities of USAOs nationwide as well as significantly jeopardize the totality of operations, which is critical to maintaining the integrity of criminal and civil casework.

Imposing a 22% reduction would undermine efforts at Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF), the Criminal Division, and the Civil Division to interdict illegal commerce in opioids including fentanyl. The reduced funding level could amplify the supply of illicit drugs and cause a proliferation in the violence associated with the drug trade. The failure to fund the investigation into this criminal activity would undermine public safety throughout the country during the opioid public health emergency. DEA would need to implement rolling furloughs of all employees, including agents, for 78 days. A cut of this magnitude would mean the DEA would absorb \$620 million in reductions to base resources that would negatively affect every aspect of the DEA's global operations and efforts to reduce drug-poisoning deaths and drug-related violence in the United States.

Funding the Department at the FY2022 enacted level would also severely undermine the Department's cybersecurity efforts, both in seeking to interdict and prosecute cybercriminals, and the Department's ability to protect its own information systems and data from unauthorized intrusion. Funding far below the current services level would negate years of investments supported by Congress for cybercrime investigative personnel, tools, and technology. Cybersecurity threats, both domestic and international, evolve continuously that include large-scale security breaches, supply chain attacks, and the rampant spread of ransomware, which underscore a transformational cyber moment. Cybercriminal technologies will continue to

advance at an accelerated and unprecedented pace that's irrespective of funding reductions, and the Department's efforts to ensure the safety and security of the American public from such crimes would be severely hindered.

On August 10, 2022, the Honor Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022 was enacted. Under Section 804—the Camp Lejeune Justice Act (CLJA)—service members and others who were exposed to water at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina between 1953 and 1987 may file suit for injuries caused by the exposure. Given the sheer volume of cases, the complexity of this new litigation, and the fact that the Department's existing appropriated funding in FY 2023 did not contemplate this change, the Department now faces a significant challenge to ensure CLJA is implemented as intended under current funding levels. The Department has consistently explained that the currently allocated resources in FY 2023 will not meet the Civil Division's need for attorneys, support staff, and information technology resources, which are essential to effectively respond to the litigation demands that will result from the CLJA. If funding were reduced by 22% compared to FY 2003, this shortfall would increase significantly. A 22% reduction to the Civil Division would result in a 30-day furlough to all employees and the anticipated RIF of 221 employees which would eliminate 18% of the current workforce.

We are grateful to Congress for providing needed support in the recently enacted FY 2023 omnibus to ensure Department employees are able to uphold the rule of law, keep our country safe, and protect civil rights for all. We have listed only a few of the widespread effects of a 22% funding reduction to the Department. We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may be of further assistance with this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

CARLOS FELIPE URIARTE,
Assistant Attorney General.

Mr. MCGOVERN. My Republican friends are actively cutting funding from Federal law enforcement that work to protect us every day. Their plan would also cut funding for nearly 400 local law enforcement positions. I mean, Republicans cannot be serious about supporting law enforcement when they are actively using their majority to defund them.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I have to mention again, we have legislation in front of us that will honor our law enforcement officers. When we go off on tangents and talk about what words are there and what words are not there, the simple fact is, a "yes" vote on this legislation will show our support for law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN).

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, this National Police Week is a special one for me as a new Member of Congress.

I promise to always protect our police officers, just as they protect our communities back home. Regardless of which side of the aisle you are on, on that we should all agree.

It is important that the American people see us supporting law enforcement as we debate a vote on this

week's police bills and throughout the 118th Congress.

The legislation provided for in this rule are commonsense measures including: Allowing law enforcement officers to purchase retiring service weapons, making assaulting a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and stating clearly that we appreciate the dedication of the men and women of law enforcement.

There is no better message than showing our officers, "We are behind you." I know law enforcement officers in southern Indiana and across the State who are listening right now and would appreciate it.

I am in awe of the incredible work they do to keep us safe, as they agree to take the oath to protect and serve, knowing that does not guarantee them a safe return to their family at the end of the day. I saw the true weight of this when I visited the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial last Thursday. The memorial displayed name after name after name of those who didn't return home. Too many names.

One of those names of fallen officers was Officer Benton Bertram from Charlestown, Indiana. To see his name surrounded by so many selfless, brave heroes puts it in perspective. They didn't run from danger; they ran toward it.

With unwavering gratitude, we won't forget their sacrifice. This is just the start of why it is so important we act this week on the House floor.

As an Indiana State senator, I fought for and secured a pay raise for our State police officers. Many of them thanked me. I always responded; it was the least we could do for their service.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to take advantage of every opportunity to support the police and all law enforcement officers and will actively seek out opportunities to work with anyone willing to provide our officers with the resources and the support they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, my message to the police officers in southern Indiana is: Know you always have a fighter for you here on the House floor, in House committee rooms, and here in Congress. God bless our men and women in blue.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from Indiana began her remarks by talking about National Police Week, but the resolution doesn't honor our national police. The Republicans made a conscious decision to remove the Capitol Police, FBI, ATF, CBP, U.S. Marshals Service, Federal Bureau of Prisons, the Federal Protective Service, and the Secret Service. I am happy to yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana to help me understand why the Republicans changed the wording of their resolution. I am happy to yield her any time.

Mr. Speaker, again, the gentlewoman from Minnesota says we are playing word games. No, we are not. The only people playing word games are my Re-

publican friends. They introduced a bill that honored all of our police, and then they changed it. They made a conscious decision to change it because I think they are afraid of the extreme of the extreme of their base that somehow don't want to admit that anything bad happened here on January 6, and they are afraid if they honor the Capitol Police that somehow their extreme base would be offended. That is just sick, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I urge that we defeat the previous question. If we do, I will offer an amendment to the rule for consideration of a resolution which states that it is the House's responsibility to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare for future generations and reject any cuts to these essential programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD along with any extraneous material immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, Social Security and Medicare are vital to many of our constituents' economic health security, and yet many of my Republican friends across the aisle have called for major cuts to these critical programs. Once again, I am offering my friends the opportunity to reassure the American people, not just with rhetoric but with their votes, that they will not cut these vital programs.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) to discuss our proposal.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, our residents sent us to Congress to tackle the issues that are affecting every American's ability to thrive. They did not send us here to waste valuable time on messaging bills that are dead on arrival in the Senate and do nothing to improve the lives of working families.

We are weeks, possibly days, away from Republicans hurtling our economy toward a devastating default on our debt for the first time in our Nation's history, and Republicans are heartlessly using the crisis as an opportunity to try to force cruel cuts to the social safety nets for our communities, especially our veterans, who depend on healthcare.

Republicans are putting vital public programs like Social Security and Medicare at risk by playing petty political games to appease their billionaire donors and harm the lives and livelihoods of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, defaulting on our debt would be devastating, if not catastrophic, for all those relying on Social Security and Medicare, as you know, in all of our districts. Social Security recipients would no longer receive checks, risking their ability to pay for groceries, rent, and utilities.

This is exactly the type of chaos many of my Republican colleagues

want to see happen, but Democrats are fully committed to protecting and expanding Social Security. Social Security is the bedrock of our social safety net and a pillar that all of our neighbors rely on, again, to be able to retire with dignity.

Unfortunately, as the cost of things like healthcare, caregiving, and prescription drugs has skyrocketed due to the unchecked corporate greed in our country, our seniors have come to rely even more on Social Security every single day.

Mr. Speaker, now more than ever before is the time to strengthen Social Security. If we defeat the previous question, we will bring to the House floor H. Res. 178, a resolution affirming the House's commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

Republicans need to stop wasting our time and playing games with the lives of our people. I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so we can advance this important legislation.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have a much easier way for the other side to deal with the debt ceiling. Instead of the procedural antics we are going through, maybe what they should do is encourage the President and the Senate leaders to get to the table and negotiate.

The House Republicans did their job. We passed a debt ceiling bill with spending cuts and an increase off of this floor. We have done our job. I think the real message here is National Police Week. That is what we are talking about. We are talking about the support and respect for our law enforcement officers.

I just want to maybe bring it back to what we are really talking about. I, unfortunately, have had the unfortunate honor to have three officers lost in the line of duty in my area, and so I would remember those names: Officer Brian Klinefelter, Officer Tommy Decker, and Officer Josh Owen. Officer Owen was just a few weeks ago.

Present in the Capitol yesterday was Officer Arik Matson, who was shot 3 years ago in the line of duty and survived. Let's talk about that. Let's talk about the officers that we are honoring.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule which provides consideration of important bills that support our Nation's law enforcement officers. This legislation comes at a critical moment when those on the front lines in our communities are being attacked, maligned, and stripped of the resources they need to keep us safe.

Mr. Speaker, time and again my colleagues on the other side of the aisle claim that the phrase "defund the police" is a slogan of a very small and

rogue minority that doesn't reflect their party's broader values. Democrats said that even as cities across this country burned in the summer of 2020, to the deafening chant of "defund the police."

Let's take a look at the facts. Since 2021, 25 cities across America defunded their police departments by upwards of \$2 billion. Police department budgets were slashed in Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Austin, and even in my home State of New York, New York City.

What do all these cities have in common? They have Democrat mayors, Democrat city councils, Democrat monopolies on all of the levers of power.

New York City is seeing felony crime skyrocket to levels not seen in 15 years after its Democrat mayor and Democrat-dominated city council embraced the destructive ideals of the defund the police movement. Last year, the city saw a 22.4 percent jump in serious offenses like felony assault, rape, burglary, robberies, and grand larceny.

Let's call it what it is. Defunding the police is not a fringe idea. It is a movement at the heart of the Democratic Party, and it is in practice right now. If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle truly believe that it is a fringe idea, then I look forward to strong bipartisan support for this important pro-law enforcement legislation this week.

Let's show our men and women in blue, the ones on the front lines of our community, of every community, that they aren't alone, and we have their backs.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Let me just say to the gentleman, again, the only people who in this Chamber voted to defund the police are my Republican friends. Two weeks ago, you all voted for a bill to cut money for local law enforcement, every one of you.

Let's talk about the police that you are not honoring here today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a CNN story about two FBI agents who were shot and killed last week, and yet they have been taken off the list of law enforcement officials that we are honoring.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From CNN, Feb. 8, 2021]

TWO FBI AGENTS WERE SHOT AND KILLED LAST WEEK. HERE'S WHY THAT'S A RARE TRAGEDY

(By Phil Gast)

The killing of two FBI agents last week at a lake-bordered community in South Florida marked the first time since November 2008 that an FBI agent was fatally shot in the line of duty. During that same interval, 630 police officers from state, local, tribal and other federal agencies died from line-of-duty gunshot wounds, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Why do most shooting deaths of law enforcement officers in the US occur outside of

the FBI, which calls itself "one of the world's premier security and crime-fighting forces"? Some of the answers are expected: Nearly 90% of the nation's law enforcement officers serve on local and state police forces. They make more arrests. They are much more likely to encounter potentially violent suspects on a daily basis—whether it be for a traffic stop, domestic violence call or another emergency.

But there are other factors that might explain why fewer agents die by gunfire, say law enforcement experts and former agents.

FBI agents are more likely to build cases incrementally than respond to a 911 call. They often work in multi-agency task forces and generally have more time to plan search warrants and safe execution of them. They build a case against an individual and weigh the danger he or she might present. All of this reduces the likelihood they will draw a gun or have one pulled on them. Still, the work is dangerous and plans can end in tragedy, as occurred Tuesday when Special Agents Daniel Alfin and Laura Schwartzberger and other agents and local police officers tried to execute a search warrant at a Sunrise, Florida, apartment where the suspect was barricaded. He, too, died, although the circumstances have not been divulged.

The Florida case, according to authorities, involved alleged violent crimes against children—society's most vulnerable. Federal convictions for such crimes can lead to lengthy prison sentences and some suspects may feel they may have a lot to lose, experts say.

"These can be people who think of themselves having big complicated, important lives and they may have a fraudulent exterior," says Andrew McCabe, former deputy director of the FBI and a current CNN senior law enforcement analyst.

TAKING A STRATEGIC VERSUS TACTICAL APPROACH

While all law enforcement work is inherently dangerous, there are differences in the scenarios FBI agents and local officers typically face.

The latter's "jobs are more tactical. They often don't have a plan when they get on their shift, and do not know what will be their next call," says James Pasco, executive director of the National Fraternal Order of Police. "The circumstances are often more volatile, and he or she can't control circumstances." They often have to be in a reactive mode.

Federal agents, on the other hand, are often involved in complex cases, including cyberterrorism, domestic terrorism, online fraud and crimes against children, such as pornography and trafficking.

They are proactive as they gather evidence, following leads and tips and reaching out to other law enforcement agencies.

Local police departments have investigators, too, but the FBI's hallmark is deep investigations into individuals that can be anywhere—from down the street to a remote hideaway overseas.

"You have the ability to do your homework in advance of an operation," says Lazaro "Larry" Cosme, national president of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association. "It doesn't mean it will be a fool-proof operation."

FBI agents, when they do move in on a suspect, have a precise plan and contingencies, experts say. And they usually get to decide the time and place of the search or arrest. Often, they move in with an overwhelming force.

"They typically control the environment wherever they go," says Josh Campbell, CNN security correspondent and a former FBI

agent. "It is rare for officers to fire their weapons and receive gunfire."

But sometimes an operation encounters the unknown. There never will be a "complete understanding of every threat," McCabe says.

AGENTS TRY TO REDUCE RISK OF ARMED CONFRONTATION

Special agents Alfin, 36, and Schwartzberger, 43, are being remembered for their efforts to fight sex crimes against children. They worked at the FBI's Miami office in a unit that investigates online predators, child pornography, sexual abuse, kidnappings and violent attacks. An hour before dawn Tuesday, they and other officers went to an upscale apartment in Sunrise to serve a search warrant.

Such an operation typically involves local police blocking streets and adding legitimacy, says Campbell.

Going that early has its advantages for law enforcement: They generally have the element of surprise. The subject may be groggy. He or she may have had little time to formulate resistance. The aim is to defuse the situation.

"Generally speaking, that will result in a lower number of violent confrontations," says Pasco.

The FBI hasn't said much about the search warrant, other than it was ordered by a federal court relating to a case of violent crimes against children. The FBI Agents Association said it was related to suspected possession of child pornography.

It's not known whether the FBI knew the suspect in Sunrise had weapons. Details about what led to the gunfire, weren't available. The FBI has not released an account of what occurred during the shootout.

The gunman opened fire and Alfin and Schwartzberger were killed; three agents were wounded. Two were taken to a hospital with multiple gunshot wounds and later released. The third agent was treated at the scene.

Usually, experts and the FBI says, the serving of warrants ends without incident. "We do a ton of these warrants in these kinds of cases all around the country, every day," McCabe said.

But with the profusion of child pornography, "We are getting more people who are reacting violently or unpredictably to a search warrant," he says.

1986 FIREFIGHT LED TO MORE FIREPOWER, TRAINING

The Sunrise shooting is similar to a deadly firefight 35 years ago outside Miami that was a turning point in the FBI's history. On April 11, 1986, two violent bank robbers being pursued by FBI agents opened fire with high-powered firearms, killing two agents and wounding five others before the suspects were killed.

The names and photographs of Special Agents Jerry Dove and Benjamin P. Grogan are on the FBI's online Wall of Honor. The page lists 81 employees going back to 1925. Some were killed in the 1930s during the gangster age.

The last agent to be shot to death before Alfin and Schwartzberger was Special Agent Samuel S. Hicks, who was killed in 2008 while trying to serve an arrest warrant in a drug trafficking case at a home near Pittsburgh.

Most of those listed toward the end of the Wall of Honor died as a result of illnesses linked to responding to the 9/11 attacks.

Law enforcement officers block off an area near where the agent deaths occurred in Sunrise, Florida.

In the aftermath of the 1986 shootout, the FBI issued special agents with semiautomatic handguns rather than revolvers,

changed its firearms training and studied the psychological impacts of being shot at, former FBI deputy director John S. Pistole said in 2006.

All of this was aimed at protecting the health and lives of agents.

2020 was one of the deadliest years in history for US law enforcement officers, according to a group that tracks officer deaths in the line of duty.

Law enforcement officers died last year of numerous causes, among them vehicle crashes, heart attacks and gunshots. But more died of Covid-19 than all other causes combined, with 145 out of the 264 deaths attributed to the virus, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

‘OUR CHOSEN PROFESSION IS FRAUGHT WITH DANGER’

The FBI is conducting an investigation into what happened in Florida. “You owe it to the patriots who gave their lives” to see whether there are lessons to be learned or ways for agents to better protect themselves, says McCabe.

The loss of two dedicated agents has been a gut punch to the bureau. Law enforcement and others are in mourning.

“Our chosen profession is fraught with danger. Today, this grim reality has taken two of our best from our family,” George Piro, special agent in charge of the FBI’s Miami Field Office, said at a news conference hours after the shooting.

William Beller, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association chapter president, told CNN on Wednesday: “We are all brothers and sisters in law enforcement.” Overcome with emotion, he said, “All I know is I was able to hug my kids today,” and walked away in tears.

Services for the fallen agents took place over the weekend at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens.

It’s important for people to know that while being an FBI agent is exciting, it’s an incredibly hard and perilous job, McCabe says.

“Moments like this bring reality to them in a very visceral way,” he says. “It will not deter them. They will not turn their guns in tomorrow.”

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the names of the law enforcement officers who died as a result of the Capitol riots: U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, U.S. Capitol Police Officer Howard Liebengood, D.C. Police Officer Jeffrey Smith, D.C. Police Officer Gunther Hashida, D.C. Police Officer Kyle DeFreytag.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

HOW MANY DIED AS A RESULT OF THE CAPITOL RIOT

U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick
U.S. Capitol Police Officer Howard Liebengood

D.C. Police Officer Jeffrey Smith
D.C. Police Officer Gunther Hashida
D.C. Police Officer Kyle DeFreytag

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to also include in the RECORD a CNN story about the 21 Republicans who voted “no” on a bill to award Congressional Gold Medals for the January 6 police officers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From CNN, June, 16, 2021]

Republicans Vote No on Bill To Award Congressional Gold Medal for January 6 Police Officers

(By Annie Grayer and Kristin Wilson)

Despite the House and Senate coming to an agreement that will award the Congressional Gold Medal to the officers who defended the Capitol, 21 House Republicans voted against the legislation Tuesday, the latest reminder that members of Congress still cannot agree on the facts of the deadly January 6 riot.

The final vote in the House on Tuesday was 406-21. The number of House Republicans voting against the bill nearly doubled since the first time a version of the bill came to the House floor, as the vote when the bill first passed the House in March was 413-12. Republican Rep. Lance Gooden of Texas was the only GOP member to vote no in March and change his vote to yes this time around.

Both the House and the Senate had passed their own resolutions to bestow the medals, but the initial pieces of legislation varied. The revised bills will now award three medals—one to the entire US Capitol Police force, and one to the Metropolitan Police Department, “so that the sacrifices of fallen officers and their families, and the contributions of other law enforcement agencies who answered the call of duty on January 6, 2021, can be recognized and honored in a timely manner.”

A third will be put on display at the Smithsonian Institution, with a plaque that lists all the law enforcement agencies that protected and defended the Capitol.

Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia told reporters that she voted against the Congressional Gold Medal to US Capitol Police Officers and MPD because she does not believe the legislation should refer to January 6 as an insurrection.

“I wouldn’t call it an insurrection,” Greene told reporters.

Greene also said she had issue with the language of the bill that referred to the Capitol complex as “the temple of our American Democracy.”

“This is not a temple. That is for sure,” Greene said.

Republican Rep. Thomas Massie of Kentucky also said his vote against the legislation was because of the language of the bill, specifically the references to the Capitol as a temple and January 6 as an insurrection.

“There are pending cases or trials right now, indictments against people, and I think if we called it an insurrection, it could have a bearing on their case,” he said. “If they just wanted to give the police recognition, they could have done it without trying to make it partisan,” he said.

When asked if he thought what happened on January 6 was an insurrection, he answered, “I think it was a mob but I don’t think it was an insurrection, no.”

Pressed again, he said, “They were protesting and I don’t approve of the way they protested, but it wasn’t an insurrection. My goodness. Can you imagine what a real insurrection would look like?”

Other members such as Rep. Andrew Clyde and Rep. Andy Biggs ignored questions from CNN asking to explain their vote.

Rep. Warren Davidson, an Ohio Republican, explained in a tweet that the reason he voted against the bill but previously voted for an earlier version of the legislation was because the final version of the bill referenced fallen Capitol Police Officer William “Billy” Evans who was killed as the result of an attack on the Capitol on April 2.

“Yes” was the easy vote, but it’s wrong to conflate 4/2 with 1/6. My “no” vote is an effort to make that clear” Davidson tweeted.

“I have already voted to award the Congressional Gold Medal to DC Metro and Capitol Police for their bravery on 1/6. Today’s vote was an attempt to rewrite history and further a Democrat narrative” Davidson added.

Republican Rep. Adam Kinzinger, who has been an outspoken critic of former President Donald Trump and his supporters that remain in the House, publicly criticized his 21 colleagues who voted against the legislation.

“How you can vote no to this is beyond me,” Kinzinger tweeted after the vote. “Then again, denying an insurrection is as well. To the brave Capitol (and DC metro PD) thank you. To the 21: they will continue to defend your right to vote no anyway.”

Republican Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, a frequent Trump critic herself, specifically criticized Rep. Paul Gosar, who, in addition to voting no on the legislation, had referred to the shooting of Capitol rioter Ashli Babbitt as an execution earlier Tuesday.

“On January 6, as the violent mob advanced on the House chamber, I was standing near @RepGosar and helped him open his gas mask. The Capitol Police led us to safety. It is disgusting and despicable to see Gosar lie about that day and smear the men and women who defended us,” tweeted Cheney, who was ousted from GOP leadership last month after she repeatedly rejected Trump’s election lies.

In February, the Senate unanimously voted to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Officer Eugene Goodman, who singlehandedly led a mob of insurrectionists away from the Senate chamber minutes before the chamber doors were sealed with senators still inside. But the House version of the legislation opted to award the medal to the whole of the police force rather than singling out one individual for the medal.

The legislation does name several individual officers, including Goodman, for their valor, saying “Capitol Police Officers Brian Sicknick and Howard Liebengood, Metropolitan Police Department Officer Jeffrey Smith, and those who sustained injuries, and the courage of Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman, exemplify the patriotism and the commitment of Capitol Police officers, and those of other law enforcement agencies, to risk their lives in service of our country.”

The 21 Republicans who voted against the bill are:

1. Lauren Boebert of Colorado
2. John Rose of Tennessee
3. Andy Harris of Maryland
4. Thomas Massie of Kentucky
5. Bob Good of Virginia
6. Louie Gohmert of Texas
7. Barry Moore of Alabama
8. Ralph Norman of South Carolina
9. Matt Rosendale of Montana
10. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia
11. Chip Roy of Texas
12. Paul Gosar of Arizona
13. Andy Biggs of Arizona
14. Warren Davidson of Ohio
15. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania
16. Matt Gaetz of Florida
17. Greg Steube of Florida
18. Andrew Clyde of Georgia
19. Jody Hice of Georgia
20. Mary Miller of Illinois
21. Michael Cloud of Texas

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, again, I am happy to yield to the gentleman from New York whatever time he needs, but I guess he left the floor. I would like somebody to explain to me why Republicans decided to change the wording of the bill that they introduced at the opening day session of Congress to exclude all of our Federal

police officers and exclude our Capitol Police.

I don't quite understand why they did that except I think they are afraid of their base, the extreme element of their base who basically do not want to honor them. I find that really disturbing.

Again, talking about defunding the police, the only people in this Chamber who voted to cut money for the police are on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1245

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to speak to you today in honor of our police force. What better time to honor the brave men and women of law enforcement. They don't do it for the money. They do it because of service.

What you are hearing from the other side is just not true. They are the party of defunding the police. Their own Vice President put up bond money for rioters. I can name you—and I am not going to name them by name—you have got one, two, three—five sitting Congress people whose statements are “defunding police means defunding police,” “efforts to defund the police department,” “no more police.” They are the party of defunding the police.

What better time to celebrate the fact that men and women are willing to do this? They see things we don't see. They go places we don't go. To have 135 officers shot in 2023 is unacceptable. Fifteen officers have been killed by gunfire, and 43 officers were shot in ambush-style attacks. The amount of officers shot in the line of duty is up 52 percent from this time in 2020.

Words are cheap, but it is what we as a party are doing to support the police. The statistics are outrageous. I look forward to considering legislation that supports our police officers and condemns the leftists' efforts to dismantle local law enforcement agencies, which they do.

To all those in law enforcement, Mr. Speaker, I thank them. For those who are willing to go through good times and bad times to protect us, I thank them. God bless every police officer in this country.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, what the gentleman who just spoke neglected to say is he only wants to honor some of our police officers. They made a conscious decision to, quite frankly, remove our national police, our Capitol Police, from the resolution that they were originally included in.

He said don't believe us. Well, the words are here. This is their original bill: “H. Con. Res. 5, Expressing support for the Nation's law enforcement agencies and condemning any efforts to defund or dismantle law enforcement agencies.” Their new bill was changed to just say “local law enforcement.”

They made a conscious decision to do that. The gentleman keeps on quoting, and there is an old saying that the only thing that really matters around here is votes. Everything else is B.S. We can play this game of quotes versus votes, but the bottom line is the votes are what matter and what matters the most.

My friends on the other side of the aisle 2 weeks ago brought a bill that they all voted for that cut money for law enforcement at every level. They voted for that. That is their record. I hope my friends will appreciate that.

As we honor our Nation's police officers, as we should, I have to say it is disappointing that we are only honoring some, that a conscious, deliberate decision was made to exclude others. I find that really, really disturbing, and, quite frankly, we tried to fix it last night in the Rules Committee. We tried to fix it in the Judiciary Committee, and all the Republicans voted it down.

I urge people to look at the votes. The votes are what matters.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, “It wasn't an accident. Policing in our country is inherently and intentionally racist. Daunte Wright was met with aggression and violence. I am done with those who condone government-funded murder. No more policing, incarceration, and militarization. It can't be reformed.” Thus said Congresswoman TLAIB who was just down here talking about this.

Congresswoman OMAR: “You can't really reform a department that is rotten to the root.”

That is the truth of what my colleagues on the other side of the aisle think about law enforcement. The gentleman from Massachusetts is down here besmirching the 21 Members of our body who said no to the politicization of the Capitol Police.

You want to know why it is not in here? It is because my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to turn the Capitol Police into political pawns. That is the truth.

We had a resolution in the last Congress, H.R. 1085—I voted for it—giving a Congressional Gold Medal to the brave men and women of the Capitol Police who stood here on January 6.

Then my colleagues on the other side of the aisle didn't want to leave it there. They then added another resolution a mere 2 months later when they wanted to play politics. They are playing political games.

Instead of honoring our men and women of law enforcement, Democrats played political games on a different tragedy, April 2, 2021, when Officer Billy Evans was killed and Officer Kenneth Shaver was injured by a man obsessed with the Nation of Islam who slammed his vehicle into the north bar-

ricade of the U.S. Capitol complex. That didn't fit the narrative. That didn't fit the narrative of my Democratic colleagues, seeing they want to be able to come down here and make claims that they are not defunding the police, that we are. Because we dare to stand up and say we should have fiscal responsibility and set a top-line cap, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to besmirch Republicans for cutting all manners of programs.

Yet, they bring no solutions to the American people about ending the \$32 trillion in debt, destroying the dollar, causing inflation, undermining jobs, and destroying our country. They know exactly what they are doing, and they are doing it on purpose.

We are going to stand with the men and women in blue across this country. That is what this resolution is about. It is about standing with them, and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle spent every waking moment undermining them, saying we should defund them when there were riots on the streets and our cities were burning to the ground. My Democratic colleagues didn't care. They allowed it to happen. They knew exactly what they were doing. That is what this is about.

I would add this: My father carries a card around with him. He is 80 years old. That card was given to him by his father, a chief of police of a small west Texas town. It is called: “Jackie: ‘The Son of a Hard Boiled Cop.’”

You think I'm a hard-boiled copper
For writing a mere “forty-three”;
Well perhaps I'm thinking of Jackie
And all the lad meant to me.
How's that? Tell you all about it?
Well, stranger, the boy was my son.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, and I continue:

God! What I'd give to hear, “Daddy,”
Once more when the day's work is done.
The driver was just in a hurry,
He didn't intend any harm,
But the Sun and stars quit shining,
When I picked up my boy's lifeless form.
Well, mister, I'll tear up this ticket;
I don't want to “pinch” anyone;
But I'd ride this motor through hell-fires
To protect another man's son.
So the next time you feel like speeding
Or passing a boulevard stop,
Just pause and remember my Jackie—
The son of a hard-boiled cop.

My dad carries that with him to this day, and he is 80 years old. If my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to play politics with cops, they can do it on somebody else's dime.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman runs out, I will just say you can yell all you want, but it doesn't change the fact that my friends on the other side of the aisle, including the gentleman, voted to cut money for local law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, what they did is they voted to cut a million dollars per State

in Federal money for our local law enforcement. They would fire, lay off, 400 local police officers. That is what would happen if their bill that they voted on 2 weeks ago became law. It could cut COPS grants. It would cut other DOJ funding for our local police.

The gentleman who just had a meltdown on the floor, screaming and yelling, comes on the floor all the time to talk about our border. I mean, my Republican friends made a conscious decision to remove Customs and Border Protection from the bill honoring our law enforcement.

I would like somebody to answer why. They removed the Capitol Police. They removed the FBI. They also removed CBP.

Mr. Speaker, their bill, according to the Department of Justice, if it became a law, the reduction in support for our police and Federal law enforcement would result in a reduction in our operations equivalent to the following: 154,000 pounds of cocaine not seized, 859 pounds of fentanyl and 1,948 pounds of heroin not seized, 17,148 pounds of methamphetamine not seized, \$9 million in currency not seized, 561 criminals not arrested, 57,594 apprehensions not made, and 361 people not rescued. The gentleman says he is being fiscally responsible, and that is why they voted for these cuts? Enough.

Again, can somebody please explain to me from the party that voted to defund the police why the omission, why were the words of the Republican bill changed to omit all of these other brave men and women who are protecting people all across this country and the Capitol Police who protect us every single day?

By the way, the gentleman who just spoke was among those who voted not to give a Congressional Gold Medal to the Capitol Police. Thank goodness 400 Members, Democrats and Republicans, disagreed with him.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, as we move into National Police Week, I rise in support of two bills that will help make our officers safer out on the street. The first is H.R. 2494, commonly called the POLICE Act, which simply states that an illegal alien that assaults a police officer will be deported. Not might be; will be.

Currently, the situation is they can be arrested for assaulting, and in 2021 we had 43,000 law enforcement officers assaulted. I am sure many of those were by illegal aliens. Those numbers are just going to go up. They can be arrested, placed in a 287(g) jail facility where they are held for ICE, convicted of the crime of assault, but they still may not be deported. They have to go through a long legal analysis after

their conviction to ensure that they are deported out of this country.

H.R. 2494, the POLICE Act, simply says if you assault one of our officers, we are kicking you out of this country. I can't imagine why anyone across the aisle would vote against that.

The other bill is H.R. 3091, the Federal Law Enforcement Service Weapon Purchase Act. Mr. Speaker, we have several of our Federal law enforcement agencies right now who are about to go through rearming their agencies to the tune of about 20,000 weapons. They are going to destroy these weapons if officers are not allowed to purchase their service weapon as it is being retired or as the officer may retire.

This bill simply says that we are going to take these officers that are retiring, and if they want to purchase their service weapon, they will be allowed to. Currently, they are precluded from doing that. All of these weapons are going to be destroyed; about \$8 million worth. We are just going to destroy them, and the taxpayers are going to have to buy more.

As a 40-year law enforcement officer, I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, your sidearm is not just any old sidearm. There is a special relationship that you develop, and we need to allow these officers to purchase their firearms.

□ 1300

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from MSNBC titled: "The list of Republicans open to 'defunding' the FBI keeps growing."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

[From MSNBC, Mar. 6, 2023]

THE LIST OF REPUBLICANS OPEN TO
'DEFUNDING' THE FBI KEEPS GROWING

(By Steve Benen)

Even before the FBI executed a search warrant at Mar-a-Lago, the public would occasionally hear some Republican officials talk about cutting off funds to federal law enforcement. At an event last year, for example, Republican Rep. Andy Biggs, the former chair of the right-wing House Freedom Caucus, talked up possible priorities if the GOP took control of the House.

"There are things you can do," the Arizona said, reflecting on Congress' power. "You start defunding some of these bad agencies. The FBI. The DOJ."

After the search at Donald Trump's glorified country club, however, similar talk became much louder. Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia, for example, became a leading proponent of "defunding" the FBI.

On Friday, Rep. Matt Gaetz capped off a difficult week with an appearance at the Conservative Political Action Conference, where attendees heard the Florida Republican join the defunding brigade. USA Today reported:

"I don't care if it takes every second of our time and every ounce of our energy," he said. "We either get this government back on our side or we defund and get rid of, abolish the FBI, the CDC, ATF, DOJ, every last one of them if they do not come to heel." The CDC is the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention. The audience, made up of far-right activists, loudly applauded Gaetz's condemnation, nearly drowning him out.

He did not elaborate on how, exactly, federal agencies should "come to heel," or to whose heel officials should come, but the GOP congressman is apparently ready to "defund," "get rid of" or "abolish" the departments anyway.

In the not-too-distant past, Republicans were hysterical about the idea that Democrats might try to "defund the police." It's against that backdrop that a growing number of GOP voices feel quite comfortable talking about defunding the FBI.

It's worth noting for context that Republican leaders recently appointed Gaetz to the party's "weaponization" panel, putting him in a position to help target federal agencies and determine whether or not they're on the GOP's "side."

Rep. Jim Jordan didn't go quite that far during a Sunday appearance on Fox News, but the Ohio Republican—who chairs both the House Judiciary Committee and the select "weaponization" panel—did say GOP lawmakers intend to use the "weaponization" panel to investigate assorted partisan conspiracy theories related to the FBI.

I continue to believe there's a degree of irony to these circumstances: As we've discussed, the FBI has earned a reputation as one of the single most conservative institutions in the federal government.

Indeed, it was just last week when The Washington Post published a fascinating behind-the-scenes report on the disagreements within federal law enforcement ahead of the search at Mar-a-Lago, including details about how FBI officials wanted to give Trump special treatment, and even pushed the idea that the bureau should get the former president's permission before executing a court-approved search warrant.

The Post's article added that some FBI field agents tried to "slow" the investigation, with some calling for the investigation to simply end altogether in early June, taking Team Trump's lies about cooperation at face value.

Gaetz is desperate to get "this government" back on conservatives' "side." Isn't much of the FBI already there?

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to say I am concerned because, on the one hand, my Republican colleagues say they support the police. On the other hand, their own Members are calling on Congress to defund Federal law enforcement.

They want to defund the FBI. They want to defund ATF. They want to defund DOJ.

I guess it just shows that Republicans support only some of the police. In fact, there is a Member on the other side of the aisle who is selling "Defund the FBI" T-shirts on her web page.

Mr. Speaker, I have asked over and over and over again why the Republican bill was changed to exclude a whole bunch of law enforcement officers on the Federal level, including the Capitol Police. As those who are watching this debate saw, every time I wanted to yield to get an answer, there was silence.

Nobody can explain why this happened. Nobody will help us solve this mystery as to why they decided not to honor a whole bunch of our brave men

and women who protect us in so many ways all across this country. It is baffling to me that this is where we are.

I began by telling a story, and let me end with telling a story.

Mr. Speaker, I was here on January 6. I was in the Speaker's chair on January 6. I was the last person off the House floor. I saw everybody who was here in this Chamber, including some of my colleagues on the Republican side, cowering behind Capitol Police officers because they were afraid for their lives. It was a terrible, terrible day.

Luckily, nobody here was injured, none of us, none of the Members of Congress or our staff. The Capitol Police protected us that day. I mean, we owe them our lives.

Today, as we honor our national police, my Republican friends thought it was appropriate to remove them from the list of people being honored. I find that disgraceful.

I can't even imagine what the thinking was to make that kind of decision. It is so insulting and so offensive to the people who protected us that day and protect us each and every day. I don't understand that.

I can't get a response, but we know what is going on here. We know that they removed the Capitol Police and that they removed some of these Federal law enforcement agencies because they were afraid they were going to lose votes on their side, that some of their Members would not vote to honor all of our law enforcement officials. Let that sink in for a minute.

This should have been a day of unity. This should have been a truly bipartisan endeavor to get us legislation to the floor that everybody could support, that we could all say thank you to our police. But, no, it is politicized.

They get up here and start quoting people on defund the police, but they don't tell anybody that they voted to defund the police 2 weeks ago. It is public record. Every one of them did, including the gentleman who was down here screaming.

He gets on the floor all the time and talks about the need that we have to better protect our border, yet the people who are charged with protecting our border were removed from the list of people we were honoring.

This is not right by any measure. It is not right. I am so disappointed that my Republican friends have decided to politicize this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the previous question so we can protect Social Security and Medicare, and I urge them to vote "no" on this rule.

This is beneath this institution. This is not honoring our police. This is politicizing our police. This is saying to some of our police that we don't value their service. It is saying to the Capitol Police that we don't value their service.

How dare anybody on the other side suggest that? How dare you bring a bill

to the floor that does just that? This is sickening.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I am honored to be here today to support this rule and this legislation to make sure we honor our law enforcement and that we are moving forward.

This is a completely different agenda from the legislation that my Democratic colleagues were advancing at this time in the 117th Congress last year. By this time 2 years ago, Democrats had already passed legislation that would have removed qualified immunity for police officers acting in good faith, voted to restrict policing methods that keep officers safe, and supported investigations into departments that insinuated that police officers are racists and white supremacists.

Today, House Republicans are changing the narrative and standing up for law and order and for those who enforce it. If my Democratic colleagues don't think this matters, then they clearly are still not listening to what the law enforcement community needs.

Today, they have the opportunity to show their support for law enforcement.

The defund the police movement has been disastrous in the areas that have tried it, emboldening criminals. Cities like Minneapolis and San Francisco have seen dramatic increases in crime, and residents and businesses alike are fleeing in droves.

Crime is skyrocketing throughout the country, and the lack of respect for law enforcement in this country also means fewer people are willing to enter the profession. This needs to change, and we in Congress can pass legislation like the bills today that support our police officers and show them their sacrifices and services are appreciated.

It is time for leaders to stand up for law enforcement and stop the anti-police rhetoric. I ask my colleagues on the other side to join with us in supporting and honoring law enforcement by voting for this rule today and supporting the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I support the underlying legislation, and I urge all Members to do so.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, as the long-time co-chair of the Law Enforcement Caucus, I am a staunch advocate for our law enforcement community.

How the House is recognizing this Police Week is a disappointment. Before us are partisan messaging bills instead of measures that support our men and women in blue.

This rule makes in order a pathetic resolution that ignores the service of federal law enforcement officers, including our Capitol Police.

These brave men and women protected us when Donald Trump incited a mob of armed insurrectionists to attack our Capitol.

The attack resulted in the death of five Capitol Police and MPD officers, and the injury of 150 officers.

The resolution ignores the Republicans currently seeking to defund federal law enforcement agencies, like the FBI, ATF, and Homeland Security.

And the resolution is silent on increasing funding for the Byrne JAG and the COPS Hiring programs.

I offered 5 specific amendments to add these crucial elements to this resolution. But the Republicans did not make them in order. What are they afraid of?

Armed officers can enhance public safety. But an officer in good standing is not defined in the Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act.

We know an officer could be in good standing with their department but ineligible to carry a handgun.

I offered two amendments to align this bill with New Jersey's interpretation of current law. Again, neither were made in order.

Next Police Week let us take up actually make a difference for officers and their families. Not this partisan approach.

God bless our police and God bless America.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 398 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 4. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 178) affirming the House of Representatives' commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

SEC. 5. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 178.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. BOST) at 1 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RELATING TO "PROCEDURES COVERING SUSPENSION OF LIQUIDATION, DUTIES AND ESTIMATED DUTIES IN ACCORD WITH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 10414"—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-41)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.J. Res. 39, a resolution that would disapprove the Department of Commerce's rule titled "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414."

For too long, because of unfair trade practices and underinvestment in domestic manufacturing, the United States has been reliant on China for solar energy products. From day one, my Administration has bet on America to create a strong solar supply chain. We have worked to create good-paying jobs and build manufacturing facilities in the United States for solar energy and other important global industries—and our plan is working.

Thanks to my Investing in America agenda, 51 new and expanded solar equipment manufacturing plants have been announced since I took office. Since the passage of Public Law 117-169, commonly referred to as the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, last August, private companies have announced commitments to build enough solar panel manufacturing capacity to power nearly six million homes.

America is now on track to increase domestic solar panel manufacturing capacity eight-fold by the end of my first term. But that production will not come online overnight. The Department of Commerce's rule supports American businesses and workers in the solar industry and helps provide sufficient, clean, and reliable electricity to American families, while continuing to hold our trading partners accountable.

The rule implements a temporary, 24-month bridge to make sure that when these new factories are operational, we have a thriving solar installation industry ready to deploy American-made solar products to homes, businesses, and communities across the Nation. Given the progress we are making on American solar, I do not intend to extend the tariff suspension at the conclusion of the 2-year period in June 2024.

Passage of this resolution bets against American innovation. It would undermine these efforts and create deep uncertainty for American busi-

nesses and workers in the solar industry.

Therefore, I am vetoing this resolution.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 16, 2023.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the veto message and the joint resolution will be printed as a House document.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 39, be postponed until the legislative day of May 24, 2023.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 398; and

Adoption of House Resolution 398, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2494, PROTECT OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT WITH IMMIGRATION CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3091, FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SERVICE WEAPON PURCHASE ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. CON. RES. 40, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CONDEMNING EFFORTS TO DEFUND OR DISMANTLE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 398) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2494) to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of (H.R. 3091) to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of (H. Con. Res. 40) expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 220, nays 209, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 215]

YEAS—220

Aderholt	Gaetz	Miller-Meeks
Alford	Gallagher	Mills
Allen	Garbarino	Molinaro
Amodei	Garcia, Mike	Moolenaar
Armstrong	Gimenez	Mooney
Arrington	Gonzales, Tony	Moore (AL)
Babin	Good (VA)	Moore (UT)
Bacon	Gooden (TX)	Moran
Baird	Gosar	Murphy
Balderson	Granger	Nehls
Banks	Graves (LA)	Newhouse
Barr	Graves (MO)	Norman
Bean (FL)	Green (TN)	Nunn (IA)
Bentz	Greene (GA)	Oberholte
Bergman	Griffith	Ogles
Bice	Grothman	Owens
Biggs	Guest	Palmer
Billirakis	Guthrie	Pence
Bishop (NC)	Hagaman	Perry
Boebert	Harris	Pfluger
Bost	Harshbarger	Posey
Brecheen	Hern	Reschenthaler
Buchanan	Higgins (LA)	Rodgers (WA)
Buck	Hill	Rogers (AL)
Bucshon	Hinson	Rogers (KY)
Burchett	Houchin	Rose
Burgess	Hudson	Rosendale
Burlison	Huizenga	Rouzer
Calvert	Hunt	Roy
Cammack	Issa	Rutherford
Carey	Jackson (TX)	Salazar
Carl	James	Santos
Carter (GA)	Johnson (LA)	Scalise
Carter (TX)	Johnson (OH)	Schweikert
Chavez-DeRemer	Johnson (SD)	Scott, Austin
Ciscomani	Jordan	Self
Cline	Joyce (OH)	Sessions
Cloud	Joyce (PA)	Simpson
Clyde	Kean (NJ)	Smith (MO)
Cole	Kelly (MS)	Smith (NE)
Collins	Kelly (PA)	Smith (NJ)
Comer	Kiggans (VA)	Smucker
Crane	Kiley	Spartz
Crawford	Kim (CA)	Stauber
Crenshaw	Kustoff	Steel
Curtis	LaHood	Stefanik
D'Esposito	LaLota	Steil
Davidson	LaMalfa	Steube
De La Cruz	Lamborn	Stewart
DesJarlais	Langworthy	Strong
Diaz-Balart	Latta	Tenney
Donalds	LaTurner	Thompson (PA)
Duarte	Lawler	Tiffany
Duncan	Lee (FL)	Timmons
Dunn (FL)	Lesko	Turner
Edwards	Letlow	Valadao
Ellzey	Loudermilk	Van Drew
Emmer	Luetkemeyer	Van Duyne
Estes	Luna	Van Orden
Ezell	Luttrell	Wagner
Fallon	Mace	Walberg
Feenstra	Malliotakis	Waltz
Ferguson	Mann	Weber (TX)
Finstad	Massie	Webster (FL)
Fischbach	Mast	Wenstrup
Fitzgerald	McCauley	Westerman
Fitzpatrick	McClain	Williams (NY)
Fleischmann	McClintock	Williams (TX)
Flood	McCormick	Wilson (SC)
Foxx	McHenry	Wittman
Franklin, C.	Meuser	Womack
Scott	Miller (IL)	Yakym
Fry	Miller (OH)	Zinke
Fulcher	Miller (WV)	

NAYS—209

Adams	Bowman	Casas
Aguilar	Boyle (PA)	Case
Allred	Brown	Casten
Balint	Brownley	Castor (FL)
Barragan	Budzinski	Castro (TX)
Beatty	Bush	Cherfilus-
Bera	Caraveo	McCormick
Beyer	Carbajal	Chu
Bishop (GA)	Cárdenas	Cicilline
Blumenauer	Carson	Clark (MA)
Blunt Rochester	Carter (LA)	Clarke (NY)
Bonamici	Cartwright	Cleaver

Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Gallo
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)

Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan

Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—5

Auchincloss
Evans

Lucas
Peltola

Sewell

□ 1401

Mses. MCCOLLUM and KAPTUR, and Messrs. BERA, CARSON, COURTNEY, CARTER of Louisiana, MAGAZINER, and CLYBURN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. CARTER of Texas changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 222, noes 203, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 216]

AYES—222

Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bogert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Comer
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bogert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Comer
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz

Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bogert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Comer
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz

NOES—203

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo

Carbajal
Cárdenas
Costa
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clever
Clyburn
Cohen

Eshoo
Espallat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)

Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz

Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—9

Auchincloss
Bean (FL)
Evans

Lucas
Magaziner
Peltola

Sewell
Strong
Torres (NY)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1411

Ms. KAPTUR changed her vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOMENT OF SILENCE RECOGNIZING THE VICTIMS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO, SHOOTING

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, an 18-year-old carrying an assault-type weapon shattered the peace in a quiet residential neighborhood in Farmington, New Mexico.

Three beautiful souls lost their lives. Many more were wounded and numerous others traumatized.

I praise the heroes who drove to danger to stop the violence. I am ever grateful for the coordination between local, State, county, and Federal law enforcement.

I pray for the quick recovery of the wounded and for the families of those we lost.

I imagine a world where mothers and fathers drop off their children at school without fear, a world where families can gather to worship or simply be at peace in their neighborhood.

Sadly, that peace is shattered by gun violence somewhere in America every single day. Every day, we are reminded that we don't yet live in a peaceful country, and yesterday was no exception.

Many of us standing and listening and praying today are committed to banning assault weapons, especially for an 18-year-old. We are committed to bringing peace to our communities.

Now, I invite all Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me in a moment of silence, a moment of gratitude to our law enforcement, and a moment of prayer to honor the lives of those we tragically lost yesterday.

□ 1415

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intent to raise a question of the privileges of the House.

The form of the resolution is as follows:

House Resolution 114.

Resolved, That, pursuant to article I, section 5, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, Representative GEORGE SANTOS, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under rule IX, a resolution offered from the floor by a Member other than the majority leader or the minority leader as a question of the privileges of the House has immediate precedence only at a time designated by the Chair within 2 legislative days after the resolution is properly noticed.

Pending that designation, the form of the resolution noticed by the gentleman from California will appear in the RECORD at this point.

The Chair will not at this point determine whether the resolution constitutes a question of privilege. That determination will be made at the time designated for consideration of the resolution.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 901

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 901.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

COMMENDING JOHN A. FREEMAN ON 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TRI-TOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 47

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John A. Freeman, a 50-year member of the Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company in Ulysses, Pennsylvania.

The Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company No. 47 is an all-volunteer fire and ambulance department serving Ulysses Borough and the Potter County townships of Allegheny, Bingham, Hector, and Ulysses. Since 1972, John has volunteered with Tri-Town where he quickly established himself as an important and reliable member of the company. As a truck captain and driver, John has served as an integral part of countless emergency responses throughout north central Pennsylvania.

As a longtime firefighter and EMS volunteer, I understand the courage, commitment, and determination it takes to serve your community as a first responder. First responders miss many important moments with their loved ones to answer the call whenever and wherever it occurs. Their service is even more critical in rural areas like Potter County, where volunteer numbers are falling and placing a strain on those who do answer the call.

For this reason, I commend John A. Freeman for his 50 years of service to the Tri-Town Volunteer Fire Company and for the example he sets for volunteers in Potter County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PATRICIA RUSSELL-McCLOUD SPEECH STILL CONTAINS RELEVANT THEMES

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, 43 years ago, the trailblazing Ohioan, a friend, and founder of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Louis Stokes, stood on this very floor and entered into the RECORD an extraordinary speech.

It was a speech he had heard by a young, accomplished, talented Black American, a lawyer, Patricia Russell-McCloud titled, "If Not You, Who? If Not Now, When?"

It was a speech with themes that are still very much relevant today: of what does it mean to be Black in America and the struggle to carve out a place in society.

I am pleased to say that Patricia Russell-McCloud now lives in Ohio's Third Congressional District and is one of my constituents, a mentor, and friend.

I cannot recommend enough that my colleagues refer to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of May 14, 1980, and seek out her wise and inspirational words.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SUSAN LOTT CLARK

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Susan Lott Clark of Waycross, Georgia.

Susan was born in May of 1925 in Waycross, Georgia. She graduated from Waycross High School, then went on to Wesleyan College, Emory University, and the University of Georgia.

She married Dr. William Clark, Jr., an ophthalmologist, and then settled back down in her hometown in 1958. Susan stayed active in the local Methodist Church. She taught Sunday school there and even coauthored a book called "The History of First United Methodist Church."

As well as her church activities, Susan founded the Okefenokee Heritage Center and the Southern Forest World Environmental Center.

In 2008, Susan went on to spearhead the movement to add Lott Cemetery of Waycross to the National Register of Historic Places.

At 92, Susan went on to publish her autobiography, "Let's Talk About Me," which gives an illuminating look back on her life.

She was the recipient of many awards during her life, including the Waycross Woman of the Year Award, the Wesleyan College Alumnae Award for Distinguished Achievements, and Wise Owl Award for leadership in Georgia Forestry.

My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Clark family during this most difficult time.

CELEBRATING 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANTON'S DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

(Mrs. SYKES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ohio's 13th District champions of the week: The founding mothers of the Canton Domestic Violence Project, Helen Syrios, Nancy Boylan, and the late Gertrude Kennedy. These three courageous women founded the Domestic Violence Project in 1978 when domestic violence was often met with silence, fear, and ignorance, yet they persevered. It was their pioneering acts of empathy, strength, and resilience that would change countless lives forever.

After 45 years, the Domestic Violence Project has provided shelter to thousands of battered women and children in Stark County, becoming one of the largest shelters in Ohio.

The Domestic Violence Project provides a lifeline to survivors, a place where they can feel empowered, find healing, and gain the tools necessary to break free from the cycle of abuse.

The courageous service of Helen, Nancy, and Gertrude regularly forced them to risk their own safety to help women of all backgrounds escape from abusive homes, and their unrelenting dedication deserves recognition.

The countless lives that have been saved and the increased safety can be traced back to the selflessness of Nancy, Helen, and Gertrude, who worked so tirelessly so that no one in Ohio's 13th District felt unsafe in their own home.

We honor their legacy, and together we will continue to build a future where everyone feels safe, valued, and empowered.

SUPPORTING AMERICAN POLICE OFFICERS

(Mr. McCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, this National Police Week, I rise today in gratitude for those who protect our homes and families, bring justice to the evildoer, and comfort to their countrymen in distress.

These dedicated men and women, who put their lives on the line as they put on their uniforms every day, often do not receive the support that they deserve.

From corporate media to Hollywood, even to this Congress, American police officers frequently receive abuse instead of thanks, and blame where they deserve applause.

However, hardworking, law-abiding American families and citizens know better. They know the importance of fighting crime and protecting the innocent, and they know the cost.

In 2022, 11 Georgia police officers died in the line of duty. So far in 2023, we have lost another.

Last week, I had the honor of presenting a wreath at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C. dedicated to those courageous men and women, the heroic peace officers of Georgia, and all across America.

May their service and sacrifice never be forgotten and may Americans always proudly back the blue. Semper fidelis.

CELEBRATING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN VIRGINIA

(Mrs. MCCLELLAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate infrastructure week and highlight the incredible projects made possible in Virginia by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The IIJA, or bipartisan infrastructure law, is a once-in-a-lifetime, once-in-a-generation investment to rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure, improve public safety and climate resilience, accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, and reconnect historically marginalized and disenfranchised communities.

Since the IIJA was passed, \$4.7 billion in Federal funding is headed to the Commonwealth of Virginia for 192 specific projects. That includes \$3.8 billion for transportation infrastructure, like our public transit, roads, rails, ports, airports, and bridges, like the historic Mayo Bridge in my district in Richmond; and approximately \$290 million for clean water initiatives in the Commonwealth.

Thanks to IIJA, more than 345,000 households across the Commonwealth are now receiving affordable high-speed internet.

This is just the beginning. As we continue to work to implement the provisions from the bipartisan infrastructure law, Virginians can expect to see billions more in Federal funding.

Thanks to the leadership of the Biden-Harris administration, we aren't just celebrating infrastructure week, but infrastructure decade.

□ 1430

CANCER SCREENINGS SAVE LIVES

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Colorectal Cancer Payment Fairness Act. It is a bill that I reintroduced today to include more colorectal screenings. Everyone knows that cancer screenings save lives.

My bill provides Medicare beneficiaries with complete coverage for cancer treatments performed during routine screenings by the end of this year.

Right now screenings are covered but treatments are not, so patients can wake up after the procedure with a surprise medical bill upwards of \$2,000.

Colorectal cancer is one of the deadliest cancers that we have, but it has one of the highest survival rates, if detected and treated early.

Too many Americans put off routine cancer screenings because they feel fine and worry about coverage. That can be a life-threatening decision.

This issue is very personal to me. I lost my father, the honorable and respected Congressman Donald Payne, Sr., to colorectal cancer in 2012. I don't want other families to lose their fathers and loved ones because they did not get screened regularly.

AMERICA SHOULD PAY ITS BILLS

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America should always pay its bills, and we must do everything under the Sun to avoid a default. Failure to do so would trigger massive job loss, a recession, and rising costs.

Mr. Speaker, our national debt is over \$31 trillion, and we must look at ways while working together, Democrats and Republicans, to get this under control.

I encourage the President and congressional leaders to put the American people first. We must depoliticize debt ceiling negotiations.

Mr. Speaker, eastern North Carolinians elected me to fight for higher-paying jobs, policies that will boost our economy, and to end high prices. A default goes against all of this, and it would only make life harder for my constituents.

IN SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESSES

(Ms. OMAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of small businesses and to celebrate my friend Abdirahman Kahin, the owner of Afro Deli in my district who was named Small Business Person of the Year by the Biden administration.

My district was also chosen as one of the stops for SBA's national tour in honor of Small Business Week.

It was great to welcome Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff and Small Business Administrator Isabel Guzman to discuss economic development for new Americans and underserved communities at Adama Restaurant and Awash Bakery in my district.

We also discussed the critical role community development financial institutions play in helping small businesses. Also in that week we were able to host BIPOC women small business owners at a roundtable at Wildflyer Coffee in Minneapolis.

The Fifth District is full of thriving small businesses, many owned by immigrants and people of color, and we will continue to support them to make sure they have the resources they need to thrive in the future.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Ms. SALINAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Police Week.

Every day, from Tigard to Turner, McMinnville to Monmouth, tens of thousands of courageous Oregonians answer the call to protect and serve.

Law enforcement officers routinely step into harm's way to defend community members in crisis and to protect the rule of law. For that, we owe them

a debt of gratitude, but gratitude alone is not enough.

As the daughter of a police officer, I know what it is like to worry about whether your loved one will return home safely, and I grieve for the families of those who don't.

In their honor, I am committed to supporting police officers in Oregon and across our Nation with the resources, funds, training, and care they need. We also need to do more to support our officers once they exit the force, from increasing mental health services to expanding disability benefits.

Those who dedicate their lives to public safety deserve nothing less.

IT HAS TO STOP

(Mr. BOWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, May 14, marked the 1-year anniversary of the horrific mass shooting in Buffalo, New York.

America can only move forward if we acknowledge what is killing us in droves—white supremacist extremism.

Congress needs to lead and say clearly to the country that white supremacy is an existential threat.

Last year, a man, radicalized by the great replacement theory, drove 2 hours to a Black neighborhood in Buffalo with an assault rifle and opened fire. Ten lives were lost, and we are still collectively mourning.

We are also mourning the lives of those lost in other racist attacks, including in Allen, Texas, at the hands of a neo-Nazi extremist.

These once-fringe ideologies are now being openly promoted by too many in the Republican Party, which is seeking to criminalize migrants, ban Black history curricula, take away food from children and healthcare for all, and fan the flames of a culture war.

It has to stop.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE STABILIZATION OF IRAQ—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-42)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WILLIAMS of New York) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to

the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003—as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13290 of March 20, 2003, Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, Executive Order 13438 of July 17, 2007, and Executive Order 13668 of May 27, 2014—is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2023.

Obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 16, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-956. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Federal Grain Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Exceptions to Geographic Boundaries [Doc. No.: AMS-FGIS-19-0062] (RIN: 0581-AD90) received May 11, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-957. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Incentives for Advances Cybersecurity Investment [Docket No.: RM22-19-000; Order No.: 893] received May 4, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-958. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guide — Environmental Qualification of Certain Electric Equipment Important to Safety for Nuclear Power Plants [Regulatory Guide 1.89, Revision 2] received May 11, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-959. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: Exemption of Certain Contracts from the Periodic Inflation Adjustments to the Acquisition-Related Thresholds [FAC 2023-03, FAR Case 2022-002, Item II; Docket No.: FAR-2022-0002, Sequence No.: 1] (RIN: 9000-AO39) received May 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-960. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's summary presentation of final rules — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-03; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No.: 2] received May 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-961. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulations; Technical Amendments [FAC 2023-03; Item III; Docket No.: FAR-2023-0052; Sequence No.: 2] received May 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-962. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: Removal of FAR Subpart 8.5, Acquisition of Helium [FAC 2023-03; FAR Case 2022-007; Item I; Docket No.: FAR-2022-0004; Sequence No.: 1] (RIN: 9000-AO44) received May 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-963. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's small entity compliance guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-03; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No.: 2] received May 2, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-964. A letter from the Director, Border and Immigration Policy, OGC, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Circumvention of Lawful Pathways [A.G. Order No.: 5660-2023] (RIN: 1125-AB26) received May 11, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-965. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1063; Project Identifier AD-2021-01339-T; Amendment 39-22375; AD 2023-05-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-966. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0658; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00315-T; Amendment 39-22402; AD 2023-07-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64)

received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-967. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0655; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01435-T; Amendment 39-22399; AD 2023-06-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-968. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, Key West, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1613; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-27] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-969. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revocation of Class E Airspace; Liberty, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1680; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-30] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-970. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Revocation of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes in the Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0061; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-10] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-971. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Ellsworth, Augusta, and Waterville, ME [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0099; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANE-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-972. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Macon, GA [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1614; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-28] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-973. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Kissimmee, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0694; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASO-11] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-974. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Rogers, Springdale, and Bentonville, AR [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0546; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASW-10] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to

5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-975. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Altoona, PA [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0039; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AEA-1] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 9, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 1482. A bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-60). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 1496. A bill to upgrade the communications service used by the National Weather Service, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-61). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 1735. A bill to coordinate Federal research and development efforts focused on modernizing mathematics in STEM education through mathematical and statistical modeling, including data-driven and computational thinking, problem, project, and performance-based learning and assessment, interdisciplinary exploration, and career connections, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-62). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. McCAUL: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 1153. A bill to provide a clarification of non-applicability for regulation and prohibition relating to sensitive personal data under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-63). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BOST: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. H.R. 366. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs (Rept. 118-64). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 3355. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a loan repayment program for the substance use disorder treatment workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subse-

quently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H.R. 3356. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to employment screening for the motor carrier industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. STRONG (for himself, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. CARL, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GUEST, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, and Mr. FITZGERALD):

H.R. 3357. A bill to prohibit the purchase or lease of agricultural land in the United States by persons associated with certain foreign governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. FALLON, Mr. COMER, Ms. MACE, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BANKS, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. ALFORD, and Mrs. BICE):

H.R. 3358. A bill to prohibit any requirement for recipients of Federal contracts to disclose greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related financial risk, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 3359. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy to counter fentanyl trafficking in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida):

H.R. 3360. A bill to establish a Government corporation to provide loans and loan guarantees for infrastructure projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 3361. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit a report on the digital divide and to update the Indicators of Broadband Need mapping application, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 3362. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to publish data from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. COLE, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. MAST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. EZELL, Mr.

SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 3363. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit a report annually to Congress on the average time to provide a veteran with a service dog or a guide dog, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3364. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to increase the age of eligibility for children to receive benefits under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DUARTE (for himself, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 3365. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to give priority consideration for certain Department of Transportation grant programs to eligible projects that improve or build resiliency in the supply chain, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 3366. A bill to amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GAETZ (for himself and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 3367. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the continuing operation of national cemeteries during periods of certain funding restrictions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, and Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOLDEN of Maine (for himself and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 3368. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish a rule to implement the requirement that the Secretary be permitted to waive the limitation in law on reimbursement of veterans receiving domiciliary care in State homes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 3369. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to conduct a study and hold public meetings with respect to artificial intelligence systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 3370. A bill to prohibit funds available for the United States Armed Forces to be obligated or expended for introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 3371. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to complete all actions necessary for certain land to be held in restricted fee status by the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 3372. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a safety data collection program for certain 6-axle vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 3373. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Navy to take certain actions relating to improved mental health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. KUSTER (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BROWN, Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. NADLER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MULLIN, and Mrs. HAYES):

H.R. 3374. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a grant program for early childhood STEAM activities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KUSTER (for herself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BACON, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 3375. A bill to establish programs to address addiction and overdoses caused by illicit fentanyl and other opioids, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANDSMAN (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mrs. SYKES, and Mr. CAREY):

H.R. 3376. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize law enforcement agencies to use COPS grants to recruit and retain law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 3377. A bill to discourage speculative oil and gas leasing and to promote enhanced multiple use management of public land and National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. LUCAS:

H.R. 3378. A bill to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture as a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 3379. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to skilled nursing facilities for primary immunodeficiency patients; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a

period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. MORELLE):

H.R. 3380. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand and improve health care services by health centers and the National Health Service Corps for individuals with a developmental disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. NEHLS (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HUNT, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. EZELL, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. BOEBERT, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. BACON, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CARL, Mr. BOST, Mr. BANKS, Mr. ALFORD, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER):

H.R. 3381. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to establish the National Law Enforcement Officers Remembrance, Support and Community Outreach program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. PORTER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 3382. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the coinsurance requirement for certain colorectal cancer screening tests furnished under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. MEUSER):

H.R. 3383. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to establish an employee equity investment facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Ms. TITUS, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 3384. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to permit the use of Federal funds to pay for travel costs of Federal personnel and their pets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PLASKETT:

H.R. 3385. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report containing an assessment of the value, cost, and feasibility of developing a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber optic cable connecting the contiguous United States, the United States Virgin Islands, Ghana, and Nigeria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. SWALWELL):

H.R. 3386. A bill to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3387. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for certain health coverage of newborns; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 3388. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit a private cause of action for damages in the case of a group health plan which fails to provide for primary payment or appropriate reimbursement; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VALADAO (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. ISSA, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 3389. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an evaluation with respect to the use of the container aerial firefighting system (CAFFS), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 3390. A bill to require a study relating to the consolidation of certain grant programs currently available to insular areas and the suitability of such consolidation for Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. KILMER, Ms. CHU, Mr. TONKO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. WILD, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. BACON, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BOST, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mrs. MCCLELLAN):

H.R. 3391. A bill to extend the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia:

H. Res. 405. A resolution impeaching Matthew M. Graves, United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, for endangering, compromising, and undermining the justice system of the United States by facilitating the explosion of violent crime in the Nation's capital; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia:

H. Res. 406. A resolution impeaching Christopher Asher Wray, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for facilitating the development of a Federal police force to intimidate, harass, and entrap American citizens that are deemed enemies of the Biden regime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H. Res. 407. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Honor Our LGBT Elders Day; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MORELLE (for himself and Mr. MAST):

H. Res. 408. A resolution expressing support for designation of May 16, 2023, as the "National Day of Light"; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky:

H.R. 3355.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reauthorize the Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 3356.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill would expand access to FMCSA's voluntary safety screening program.

By Mr. STRONG:

H.R. 3357.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the purchase or lease of agricultural land in the United States by persons associated with certain foreign governments, and to address gaps in the Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act, and for other purposes.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3858.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Government oversight

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 3359.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Oversight of the Department of Defense's counter-narcotics mission.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 3360.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Infrastructure

By Mr. CARDENAS:

H.R. 3361.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit a report on the digital divide and to update the Indicators of Broadband Need mapping application.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 3362.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Telecom

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 3363.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to report on the average time it took to provide a veteran with a service dog

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 3364.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Bipartisan legislation helping to expand WIC by closing the nutrition gap among children.

By Mr. DUARTE:

H.R. 3365.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is supply chain.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 3366.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Emergency telecommunications

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 3367.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clauses 1 & 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Ensures that national cemeteries remain open to the public if the debt ceiling is breached or there is a lapse in discretionary appropriations

By Mr. GOLDEN of Maine:

H.R. 3368.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section

8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish a rule to implement the requirement that the Secretary be permitted to waive the limitation in law on reimbursement of veterans receiving domiciliary care in State homes.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 3369.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 1, Article 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require NTIA to gather stakeholder feedback on AI accountability measures and issue a report to Congress on how to protect consumers.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 3370.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

“U.S. Const. art. I §8” U.S. Const. art. I, §8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit funds available for the United States Armed Forces to be obligated or expended for introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities, and for other purposes.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 3371.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

to direct the Secretary of the Interior to complete all actions necessary for certain land to be held in restricted fee status by the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 3372.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill establishes a safety data collection pilot program for increasing gross vehicle weight limits for participating states.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 3373.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation only pertains to: mental health resources at both the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy.

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 3374.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution,

Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Early Childhood Education

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 3375.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, the Taxing and Spending Clause: “The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States . . .”

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill expands access to substance use disorder treatment and increases resources to track and respond to synthetic drugs.

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 3376.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Enhancing COPS Hiring Program Grants for Local Law Enforcement Act would allow COPS Hiring Program grants to be used for recruitment and retention bonuses, as well as simplifying the grant application process.

By Ms. LEE of Nevada:

H.R. 3377.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises” in order to “provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To promote enhanced multiple use management of public land and National Forest System land by discouraging speculative oil and gas leasing.

By Mr. LUCAS:

H.R. 3378.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would add the Ag Secretary to CFJUS.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 3379.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

health care

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 3380.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I section 8 of the US Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would designate people with IDD as a Medically Underserved Population (MUP), opening access to much needed primary care and specialist services, incentivizing new research, and authorizing more favorable reimbursement rates for providers who treat this population.

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 3381.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill establishes a formal DOJ program to support the community outreach, public education, and officer safety and wellness programs of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, including programs to honor law enforcement, compile data on officer fatalities and injuries, increase public understanding and support for law enforcement, enhance officer safety and wellness, and programs to bring law enforcement closer to the communities they serve.

By Mr. PAYNE:

H.R. 3382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

health care.

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H.R. 3383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, §8, cl. 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill amends the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to establish an em-

ployee equity investment facility within the Small Business Administration's Small Business Investment Company program.

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H.R. 3384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, Congress has the power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill amends the Fly America Act to allow federal personnel to permanently change station via foreign-flagged air carriers when the federal personnel are deploying with a pet and no U.S.-flagged carriers are willing to transport that pet.

By Ms. PLASKETT:

H.R. 3385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report containing an assessment of the value, cost, and feasibility of developing a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber optic cable connecting the contiguous United States, the United States Virgin Islands, Ghana, and Nigeria, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 3386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 3387.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for certain health coverage of newborns.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 3388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

health care

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 3389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4 Section 3 Clause 2

The single subject of this legislation is:

For Evaluation of Emergency Wildfire Fighting Technology Adoption

By Ms. VELAZQUEZ:

H.R. 3390.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; . . .

The single subject of this legislation is:

Administration of U.S. Territories

By Ms. WEXTON:

H.R. 3391.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

A bill to reauthorize the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 79: Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 239: Mr. BEYER.
 H.R. 243: Mr. HUFFMAN.
 H.R. 344: Ms. DE LA CRUZ and Mr. OGLES.
 H.R. 354: Mr. FALLON.
 H.R. 394: Ms. MACE.
 H.R. 408: Mr. KEATING.
 H.R. 592: Mr. SELF.
 H.R. 608: Mr. BALDERSON.
 H.R. 621: Mr. ALLEN, Ms. PETTERSEN, and Mr. VASQUEZ.
 H.R. 630: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois and Mr. KILMER.
 H.R. 660: Ms. PLASKETT and Mrs. SYKES.
 H.R. 663: Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 715: Mrs. SYKES.
 H.R. 766: Mr. BUCSHON.
 H.R. 782: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 795: Ms. CRAIG and Ms. CARAVEO.
 H.R. 800: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. PEREZ, and Mr. MULLIN.
 H.R. 977: Mr. PFLUGER and Mrs. BICE.
 H.R. 987: Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
 H.R. 1096: Mr. STEIL, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SELF, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H.R. 1105: Mrs. SPARTZ.
 H.R. 1147: Mr. LANGWORTHY.
 H.R. 1176: Mr. ISSA, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 1250: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 1351: Mr. SOTO, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. TOKUDA.
 H.R. 1396: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
 H.R. 1499: Mr. FROST and Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 1501: Mr. CUELLAR.
 H.R. 1505: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. DUNN of Florida, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 1563: Mr. OGLES.

H.R. 1572: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 1613: Mr. CARL and Mr. DUNN of Florida.

H.R. 1633: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1649: Ms. CARAVEO.

H.R. 1685: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1691: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 1705: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 1707: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1742: Ms. CARAVEO.

H.R. 1750: Mr. DUNN of Florida.

H.R. 1770: Ms. TOKUDA and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 1777: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1782: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 1794: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BERA, and Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 1818: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 2394: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.

H.R. 2656: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 2663: Mr. IVEY, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 2732: Mr. MCCAUL and Mrs. BICE.

H.R. 2801: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2810: Mr. CARSON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 2868: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania and Mr. DUNN of Florida.

H.R. 2873: Mr. ZINKE and Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 2874: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 2876: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 2892: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H.R. 2911: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2943: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 3002: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

H.R. 3005: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 3034: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3038: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 3059: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 3092: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 3202: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 3206: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 3212: Mr. BURLISON, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 3249: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 3251: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 3256: Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 3264: Mr. POCAN and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 3303: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BUSH, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr.

CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. MCBATH, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. LYNCH.

H. Con. Res. 37: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H. Res. 82: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H. Res. 100: Mr. CAREY.

H. Res. 272: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H. Res. 288: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. COSTA.

H. Res. 289: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mrs. MCBATH.

H. Res. 317: Ms. TOKUDA.

H. Res. 390: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H. Res. 403: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 901: Mr. DOGGETT.



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Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023

No. 82

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m., and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. Almighty God, You know all about us. You are our Lord. Our goodness is nothing apart from You. Give us Your Holy Spirit to purge us of every wrong thing so that our lives will glorify You.

Today, guide the steps of our lawmakers. Deliver them from those who shoot from the shadows as You rule the nations with Your justice. Lord, examine every heart, both the evil and the good. Empower our Senators to run when they can, to walk when ought, and to wait when they must. Open their minds to discern Your will and inspire them with the willingness to follow where You lead.

We pray in Your matchless Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 2

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, before I get into my remarks, just a lit-

tle housekeeping. I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2) to secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.J. RES. 42

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.J. Res. 42 and the Senate proceed to its consideration, as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 42.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022.

Thereupon, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, yesterday afternoon, Treasury Secretary Yellen released a letter updating congressional leadership about their latest forecast regarding default. The Treasury's projection remains unchanged: The Federal Government is in danger of failing to pay its bills as soon as June 1.

Since last week's White House meeting, Democratic staff have in good faith held conversations with our Republican counterparts about the Nation's fiscal future.

The talks are separate but simultaneous to our responsibility to avoid default. Democrats will not use the threat of default to get what we want. Nobody should use default as a hostage. Nobody should say: "Unless you do this, then we default" because the consequences of default will be devastating for ordinary Americans.

We talked through the weekend; we talked yesterday; and both sides—the staffs, that is—are talking today as well. And later this afternoon, I will join President Biden, House Leader JEFFRIES, Speaker MCCARTHY, and Leader MCCONNELL at the White House.

Democrats welcome a debate about this year's budget. For decades, both parties have regularly worked out their differences about spending and revenues throughout the appropriations process. That is what is happening right now while we separately but simultaneously work to avoid default.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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And, again, let me just repeat this because it is so important as we get closer to June 1. Nobody—nobody—should use default as a hostage. Nobody should say: “Unless you do this, then we default” because the consequences will be devastating for America.

Default would almost certainly create another recession, kill more than 8 million jobs, send costs soaring on everything from mortgages, car payments, student loans, small business loans, and so much more. If you want to own a home one day, default would take that dream and run it through the shredder. If you want to protect your 401(k), default would rob you of your livelihood. If you want to grow your small business or borrow student loans or if you benefit from Social Security or Medicare, a default would be a nightmare scenario.

We all know these things are fast approaching the closer we get to June 1. Congress cannot—under any circumstances—fail its obligation to protect the full faith and credit of the United States. It is one of our highest obligations.

NOMINATIONS

Madam President, now on nominations and Senate business, last night we filed cloture on three more outstanding judicial nominees: two district court judges and a circuit court judge. Even as Senate Democrats proceed on our agenda to help working and middle-class families avoid default, we will not relent on filling the vacancies on our Federal judiciary with qualified, mainstream, and diverse judges.

Yesterday, we took a big step forward toward strengthening the bench with the historic confirmation of Bradley Garcia, the first Latino ever to serve on the DC Circuit, the second most important court in the land. And the three judges we filed cloture on last night continue that effort. They are highly qualified and diverse candidates, both demographically and professionally. They will strengthen our Federal judiciary and help the bench better reflect the diversity and dynamism of our country.

Senate Democrats are going to keep working this week to advance these nominees, and I hope both sides can work together to move the process along quickly and in a bipartisan way.

Today, the Senate is also busy off the floor. As we speak, the Senate Banking Committee is holding a very important hearing, hearing testimony from the former CEO and chairman of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, to examine the failures that led to their collapses. I want to thank Chairman BROWN and all the Members of the committee for holding this important hearing because we need to get to the bottom of what went wrong with SVB and Signature Bank.

The American people must have confidence that Congress can work across the aisle to hold bad actors in banking accountable, and that is why it is es-

sential we hear directly from the CEOs of these failed institutions.

I hope today's hearing brings us one step closer to bipartisan action on commonsense banking oversight legislation that Americans rightfully demand.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). The clerk will call the roll. The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Later today, I will attend a second discussion between President Biden and Speaker MCCARTHY on the Nation's debt limit.

The Speaker presented his case to the President back in February. House Republicans passed legislation to raise the debt ceiling in April, but as of mid-May, the President of the United States has found just two—two—more occasions to sit down and discuss an agreement to preserve the Nation's full faith and credit.

The Biden administration took 3 months to reach a conclusion that just about everyone else recognized from the beginning. I said it myself back in February: that the only way forward is spending negotiations between the President and the Speaker. That is how the American people arranged the current situation, and, by the way, that is how 7 of the last 10—7 of the last 10—debt limit increases have been secured—bipartisan negotiations.

That is how a Republican President and Democratic Speaker avoided crisis 4 years ago. I remember telling President Trump he needed to do something he was not anxious to do, which was to talk to Speaker PELOSI, because the American people had given us divided government. That is how a Democratic President and a Republican Speaker will avoid this crisis as well.

Speaker MCCARTHY is right. The Senate Democrat majority hasn't passed a bill to raise the debt ceiling. The House Republican majority has.

So that is where the solution to this looming crisis will be found.

Last fall, the American people sent a divided government to Washington. They chose to require that President Biden work with House Republicans on the most consequential issues. Now, the President has to make a choice of his own: Pretend the last election didn't happen or sit down with the Speaker and deal responsibly with our Nation's debt.

Time is of the essence—of the essence. So, for the second time, I will be glad to sit in at the White House to support Speaker MCCARTHY and to urge President Biden to start operating in reality.

BORDER SECURITY

Now, Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, it has been 5 days since the Biden administration ended title 42 emergency border enforcement authorities—5 days. By all accounts, the situation at our southern border is absolutely catastrophic—absolutely catastrophic—for the brave men and women of Customs and Border Protection and for countless communities across Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

As title 42 expired on Thursday, officials in Del Rio, TX—listen to this—reported a 1-day increase in border apprehensions of 75 percent—1 day. In El Paso, one area of downtown is rapidly being overrun by tents and garbage—tents and garbage. One Border Patrol officer reports that every CBP enforcement sector along the southern border is now near 150 percent capacity—150 percent capacity. Sadly, what the country is witnessing right now is a slow-moving car crash.

Republicans have spent years urging President Biden and his party to get serious about securing our southern border. And the American people have known for quite some time that Democrats' approach helped create this humanitarian and security crisis. On President Biden's watch, just last fiscal year, Customs and Border Protection recorded an all-time high for migrant apprehensions: 2.7 million in 1 year. By the Agency's own estimates, another 1.2 million “got-aways” have successfully snuck across the southern border since the President took office.

The Biden administration made no effort to hide how little it cares about cleaning up the mess. Remember, for months on end, the White House Press Secretary assiduously avoided calling the situation at the southern border what it obviously was—a crisis.

Vice President HARRIS, the administration's official “border czar,” has been to the border just once in 2½ years.

When Congress asked the head of the Department of Homeland Security to account for the chaos unfolding on his watch, Secretary Mayorkas characterized functionally open borders as “executing on the plan.”

Apparently, Republicans are the only ones interested in getting the southern border crisis under control.

Later this week, the Senate will vote on a resolution from Senator MARSHALL to remove a major pillar of the Biden administration's open-borders approach. Our colleague's measure takes aim at a rule the administration implemented late last year to severely limit what immigration officials are allowed to consider when determining whether a potential immigrant is likely to become a “public charge” and rely on taxpayer-funded services.

In other words, facing record flows of illegal migration, President Biden's response was to greet people at the border with food stamps and housing vouchers—welcome to America. Sadly,

that is exactly what some of the would-be immigrants arriving at the border have come to expect from Washington Democrats.

One Venezuelan man who made it to El Paso said he was told: "They will feed you, clothe you, help you with your studies, and get a job." That is what this migrant from Venezuela was told.

It is alarming that Washington Democrats must be forced to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. The Biden administration should not need to be dragged, kicking and screaming, to do right by the hard-working citizens of this country.

So I am grateful to the junior Senator from Kansas for calling the Senate's attention once again to the Biden administration's shameless failure at the southern border, and I will urge each of my colleagues to join me in supporting the resolution later this week.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

MR. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (MR. KELLY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEBT CEILING

MR. THUNE. Mr. President, talks on the debt ceiling continue, and the Republican and Democratic leaders of the House and Senate are meeting with President Biden again today. I hope that is a positive sign because, if the President's Treasury Secretary is correct, we could be 2 weeks away from the United States beginning to default on its debts, something that would have very serious consequences for our economy and for our Nation's financial standing.

If we are going to get a debt limit increase, the President is going to have to negotiate with Speaker MCCARTHY and House Republicans—really negotiate, Mr. President—which means that President Biden is going to have to accept some real spending reforms because, otherwise, a debt limit increase is not going to make it through the House of Representatives. Those are the just the facts.

Democrats, of course, have been kicking and screaming at the idea of spending reforms. You can witness their frantic campaign to portray the responsible reforms in the House Republicans' bill as extreme. Apparently, suggesting that we should return to 2022 discretionary spending levels for 2024 is an extreme position, despite the fact that we were clearly doing just fine at those levels mere months ago.

The Senate Democratic leader came down to the floor last Thursday and suggested the Republicans were attempting to pair a debt ceiling increase with "unrelated partisan priorities"—"unrelated partisan priorities." Well,

let that just sink in for a minute because, according to the Senate Democratic leader, spending reform is a partisan priority that has nothing to do with increasing our Nation's credit card limit. If a discussion over increasing our Nation's credit card limit isn't a good time to have a discussion about spending, I don't know what is. And if spending reform is just a Republican priority, then there is something seriously wrong with the Democratic Party because, with a national debt like ours, spending reform should be a priority for everyone.

Our national debt currently stands at more than \$31 trillion—\$31 trillion. Our debt has already exceeded the size of our economy. Within a few short years, we are going to be spending more just meeting the interest on our Nation's debt than we will on national defense.

How do Democrats not realize that a national debt of that size has serious consequences? By 2044, we will be spending more on interest than on Medicare. By 2050, we will be spending more on interest than Social Security. That is barely going to leave enough money for the government to meet its most basic obligations, much less invest in all the new or expanded government programs Democrats would like to implement.

Yet Democrats are apparently content to simply ignore this reality. It is like they think that we are going to find a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow to rescue us once we have spent the Federal Government into the ground. But there is no magic pot of gold.

And before Democrats suggest it, let me just say that taxing the rich will not provide enough money to dig us out of the hole that we are in. We have to find a way to rein in Federal spending; otherwise, the size of our national debt is going to crush our economy and seriously limit the Federal Government's ability to meet even its most basic responsibilities, like funding Social Security and national defense.

Democrats would like Americans to believe that the "clean" debt limit bill they are calling for is the standard when it comes to raising our Nation's credit card limit; but, in fact, that is very far from being the case, as the Democratic leader should know from his own experience in using the debt limit as leverage in negotiations.

As Democrats should be well aware, 7 of the last 10 debt limit increases have included some mix of policy or budgetary changes rather than just a clean increase, and, historically, spending reform has frequently gone hand in hand with debt ceiling legislation. Indeed, one expert recently noted in testimony before the Senate Budget Committee that "of the eight largest deficit-reduction laws since 1985, all eight were attached to debt limit bills."

Let me repeat that. And this is from an expert who recently provided testimony before the Senate Budget Committee. This was his quote.

Of the eight largest deficit-reduction laws since 1985, all eight were attached to debt limit bills.

Now, Mr. President, I am getting a little tired of hearing Democrats dance around the facts or suggest that if Republicans just agree to the "clean" debt ceiling increase that Democrats want, Democrats would be ready to talk about spending once we move on to the budget.

Does anybody really seriously believe that if Democrats won't consider spending reforms now that, somehow, they will develop a serious enthusiasm for reining in spending once we get to the budget? Somehow it doesn't seem likely.

Democrats and the President have spent a lot of energy over the past couple of weeks tearing down Republican proposals. If they had spent half that time coming up with spending reforms of their own, we might already have a debt ceiling agreement.

And I hope that the meeting at the White House later today is a sign that the President is actually getting serious about negotiating because, if he isn't, he will have only himself to blame if our Nation defaults on its obligations. Democrats have already spent us into an inflation crisis. Let's hope that they don't push us into a default crisis as well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

MR. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BRETT BLANTON INVESTIGATION

MR. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I hope everybody in this body knows that congressional oversight is a very important responsibility of all of us, and it is even a constitutional demand. We must ensure that our government truly does work for, of, and by the people. When fraud, waste, and abuse is discovered, Congress has the responsibility to the American people to make it public because transparency brings accountability.

Today, we have an example of wrongdoing to discuss. It involves the former Architect of the Capitol's blatant misuse of government property. According to the Architect of the Capitol inspector general, during Brett Blanton's time as Architect, he engaged in unnecessary, very expensive, and impermissible conduct. For example, the report found unauthorized vehicle use; misrepresentation as a law enforcement officer; ethics violations; and, lastly, appropriations violations. Specifically, the inspector general found that Blanton should have driven approximately 10,438 miles using government vehicles. Instead, the inspector general said that Blanton racked up 29,291 miles. That is almost 20,000 extra

miles of unauthorized benefit on the taxpayers' dime.

The inspector general's October 6, 2022, report expressly noted that Blanton's actions "have violated every pillar the [Office of the Inspector General] operates under including theft, fraud, waste and abuse against not only the [Architect of the Capitol] but also the taxpayer."

In total, the inspector general identified \$13,926 of inappropriate costs associated with Blanton's use of government vehicles. On February 22 of this year, I sent a letter to Mr. Blanton asking him when he would repay the money he impermissibly cost the taxpayers. As of today—now several months later—he has failed to respond to my inquiry and my staff's attempts to contact him. He has also made no effort to repay the money that he owes the American people. His actions show no respect for the taxpayer.

But that isn't the last word on this sad story. On the same day that I sent a letter to Mr. Blanton, I also sent a letter to Acting Architect of the Capitol Chere Rexroat. I asked her whether she intended to seek repayment from Mr. Blanton. She and her team have worked to recover these payments, and as of April 21, the money Mr. Blanton owed the taxpayers was repaid in full: \$12,517 has been withheld from Mr. Blanton's final annual leave payment and has been returned to the Treasury. The remaining \$1,409 was contributed by an insurance company.

When dealing with trillions of dollars in government spending, a dozen or so thousand can seem like a very insignificant amount. However, this amount would be important to a family struggling to make ends meet in a time of record inflation and price hikes. And the amount is important to me because it is about time that we see civil servants holding someone accountable for wrongdoing.

So, obviously, before giving up the floor today, I want to emphasize that congressional oversight doesn't deal out victories every day. When wrongdoing is exposed and corrected, it should be noted.

So let's give all due credit to the Acting Architect of the Capitol and also to her team for the recoupment of this taxpayer money. It may be a small amount of money, but it is the right action to take. And we ought to compliment it. And I compliment the Acting Architect today.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll. The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

MR. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

MR. DURBIN. Mr. President, it is graduation season in America—a time when many of us in this Senate head

back home, gather with students and families to celebrate amazing accomplishments.

This past Saturday I had the honor of joining students at Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine for their commencement ceremony. It was an inspiring and hopeful celebration.

These graduates—doctors—I met this last weekend are heroes in the making. As future practitioners and medical researchers, they will dedicate their lives to healing our communities and families. And we couldn't be prouder of their accomplishments.

Let me also note two things. First, Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine was the first school of medicine in the United States to allow students with DACA status to apply for admission. They didn't set any quotas. But they said to these young people who have received recognition by our government that they can stay legally in the United States. Though they were not born here, they have received recognition by our government and been held back from many of their ambitions.

So when Loyola University of Chicago opened their doors for applications from those DACA students, young people—remarkable young people—from all over the United States applied. So far, 32 graduated before last Saturday and another 6 this past Saturday. Think of that: 38 DACA students who finally got a chance to go to medical school proved themselves worthy, did great, and now headed for their residencies and beyond.

They will become an important part of America's future. And I am so proud of Loyola University of Chicago for its leadership in doing that. I encourage all other schools to offer the same opportunities for these extraordinary DACA students to have a chance to continue to be part of America.

The second person I want to mention is a hero that is of a special nature. She was tragically missing from Loyola's campus this past weekend. Her name is Areanah Preston.

On Sunday, Chicago Police Officer Preston was set to receive her Master of Jurisprudence from Loyola's School of Law. But just days before her graduation ceremony, she was shot and killed outside of her home, right as she was returning home from a late shift on patrol.

Officer Preston was one of the best of Chicago. At only 24 years of age, she had served with the Chicago Police Department for 3 years. And during her time on the force, she worked to build trust between law enforcement and the communities that she served.

Officer Preston was inspired to become a police officer after taking a trip to Europe as part of her undergraduate criminology studies. Her class visited former concentration camps in Germany and Poland, the sites of some of the worst atrocities in human history.

The stories of the Holocaust compelled Areanah Preston to the change

she wanted to see in the world. She wanted to be part of it. In her words:

When I got back [home], I wanted to be an officer. I felt like I could be a person to fight for justice.

And during her time on the force, that is exactly what she did.

On Saturday—the day before Mother's Day—Officer Preston's mother Dionne and her other family members walked on stage at Loyola University's ceremony to accept her diploma.

I want to extend my deepest condolences to each and every one of them. Officer Preston and her family should be together today, celebrating her amazing accomplishments and her courageous service to our city. Instead, they are mourning her loss. She is yet another victim of America's epidemic of gun violence.

Officer Preston's loss is especially poignant this week as we mark the beginning of Police Week. It is a time when law enforcement officers across the country travel here to Washington to meet with lawmakers and honor their peers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The murder of Officer Preston in Chicago—as well as hundreds of other police officers who have died by gunfire in recent years—is a sobering reminder that no American is immune to the scourge of gun violence in this country.

It was just 1 year ago this weekend when a White supremacist marched into a grocery store in Buffalo, NY, with an AR-15 assault-style rifle and opened fire, killing 10 Black Americans.

The first victim in that shooting was a man named Aaron Salter. At the time of the shooting, Mr. Salter—a former police officer—was working as a security guard at the grocery store.

When the gunman showed up, Mr. Salter did not hesitate to leap into action. He opened fire on the gunman. There was only so much he could do. You see, Mr. Salter was armed with a handgun. The assailant had an AR-15-style rifle and was wearing a tactical vest.

In this case, Mr. Salter was a good guy with a gun, but the bad guy had a bigger gun. Mr. Salter was forced into a position that no police officer, no security guard, should ever find themselves in—being outgunned by a violent criminal. But this happens with alarming frequency. And it is because lawmakers have failed to do enough to stop guns from falling into the wrong hands.

If we truly want to honor the sacrifices of heroes like Mr. Salter and officer Preston, we need to do more than offer our prayers and condolences. We need to take action.

At this point, I want to salute you, Mr. President, because you and your wife and family have worked so hard to make this issue an important part of our agenda in America.

In the years since the mass shooting in Buffalo, we have seen more than 650 mass shootings across America. A mass

shooting takes place when four people are either killed or wounded in one incident. During that period, more than 40,000 of our fellow citizens have died from gunfire, which is now the No. 1 killer of our Nation's children. The No. 1 killer of children under the age of 18 in America is gun violence. That is a fact.

Time and again, we hear lawmakers argue in Washington and other places that guns really aren't the problem, often claiming the real problem is mental illness. Well, here is the truth. Every nation on Earth struggles with mental illness, but America is the only advanced nation that sees more mass shootings than there are days in a year. I want to deal with mental illness honestly, but to say that is the problem alone is to ignore the obvious.

Last year, the Senate Judiciary Committee, which I chair, held a hearing on the crisis of gun violence in America. One of the witnesses we heard was former Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams.

During that hearing, Chief Williams told the committee that our Nation's gun laws are failing members of law enforcement like her. Here is what she said:

We are outgunned. We're outmanned. We're out-staffed.

We do need responsible gun legislation . . . there should be a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines in order for us to properly serve and protect our communit[ies].

Chief Williams was right. Smart gun safety laws work. We even have recent proof of it.

Last year, this Senate finally passed the bipartisan Safer Communities Act—the most important gun safety law in nearly 30 years. Thanks to that law, the Justice Department is able to perform enhanced background checks on buyers under the age of 21.

According to the Department of Justice, these enhanced background checks have already prevented more than 160 firearms from falling into potentially dangerous hands.

But that is not enough. We need to do more. Without more robust legislation—like reining in assault weapons—we are not going to make the progress we need in protecting the lives of our families and communities.

Friday afternoon, I had a visit in my Chicago office from four people. One was a mom and three were pediatricians from the Highland Park area north of Chicago. We remember Highland Park because of the last Fourth of July parade where a shooter got on the roof of a building and, in a matter of 60 seconds, fired off 83 rounds into an innocent crowd. And 7 people died, over 50 were injured. One 8-year-old boy was paralyzed for life.

They came to talk to me about the AR-15 assault weapon crisis that we face in America. What they said to me I cannot repeat on the floor of the Senate because they went into graphic, painful detail of what an AR-15 weapon

does to the human body and particularly what it does to children. Those small bodies, those compact little bodies, hit by an AR-15 round, are forever damaged, and some of them are in an impossible situation when it comes to medical care.

They talked about the fact that—and we hear this so often—at the scene of these mass shootings, particularly in schools, they collect DNA evidence from the parents to identify what is left of the body of the children after the assault weapons had been fired into the bodies.

That is just a horrible thing, unimaginable thing, when it comes to imagining your own children or grandchildren and what might happen to them.

This mother came as part of this group, which is known as March Fourth, broke down in tears and told me that every single day now since Highland Park a year ago, she worries about sending her kids to school: Will this be the day that they don't come home?

No family, no parent, no grandparent should ever face that fear as we do in America—uniquely in America—because of the bewildering explanation of our Second Amendment.

Unfortunately, instead, moving forward on sensible gun safety laws, some people in the other party would move backward. Right now, the House MAGA majority is trying to erase a regulation that restricts braces that turn pistols into short-barreled rifles.

That is the same kind of weapon carried by mass shooters in Dayton, OH; Boulder, CO; and recently in Nashville, TN.

These weapons are a danger to law enforcement and ordinary citizens. And now this Republican effort in the House wants to make it easier to access these deadly weapons, not harder.

Does that make any sense at all?

Moreover, at this very moment, MAGA Republicans are threatening to default on America's debt unless we pass Speaker MCCARTHY's bill to wipe out 30,000 law enforcement jobs.

Talk about defending the police. The McCarthy approach in making deep budget cuts not only affects the number of law enforcement who are on the beat trying to protect us every single day but also makes a 25-percent cut in medical research in this country, something that is essential for every family's future.

That is right. House Republicans are threatening to trigger an economic crisis unless Democrats support their proposals to defund the police and basically eviscerate medical research in this country. That is coming from the same Republicans who spent years falsely claiming it was the Democrats who wanted to defund the police. Now we have clear evidence otherwise. Here they are supporting budget cuts that would leave law enforcement behind and make communities less safe. This is no way to honor the service and sac-

rifice of police officers across the country who have journeyed to Washington.

If you are going to talk a big game about supporting law enforcement during your political campaign, you have to back up your action when you are elected. Threatening a disastrous debt default unless we make massive budget cuts is no way to protect America.

Let's make sure officers have all the funding and resources they need to keep America safe, and that includes sensible gun safety laws that help keep weapons of war off American streets.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, President Ronald Reagan once said:

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.

In every generation since the country's founding, brave men and women have stepped forward to defend our great country. Each one of them joined knowing that they might be called upon to sacrifice everything, even their lives. In our history, more than 1 million Americans have paid that last full measure of devotion. It is only right that we return the honor.

The tradition of Memorial Day goes back to the 1860s. It was originally called Decoration Day. Families of the fallen would decorate the graves of their loved ones. In 1888, Congress recognized this tradition and made it a holiday in the District of Columbia. Congress made it a national holiday in 1968.

For Gold Star families, every day is Memorial Day. Alabama is home to more than 6,000 Gold Star family members. These include children who were forced to grow up without knowing their parents, spouses who had "happily ever after" cut short, moms and dads who hugged their children goodbye for the very last time, families with an empty seat at their dinner table.

As we honor their loved ones, we also ought to honor Gold Star families. Today, I would like to do just that. I would like to recognize three of Alabama's fallen heroes and their families.

First, I would like to recognize SGT Ricky Jones of Plantersville, AL. The former star running back of Dallas County High School—also known as MoJoe—is remembered for being a "giving person" who was always there for his family and for his community. Sergeant Jones was known to consistently attend football games to support younger players who aspired to be just like him.

His family always knew they could count on him. After his mother fractured her hip, Sergeant Jones took leave to come home and help with her recovery. His sister Jasmine recalls him standing at the door of her bedroom to tell her goodbye when the time

came for him to return to Afghanistan. She didn't know this would be the last time she would see him. He was killed on Father's Day of 2009, leaving behind a wife and four children.

Because of the impact he left on his community, Dallas County established June 27 as "Ricky DeWayne 'MoJoe' Jones Day." Dallas County High School also retired his No. 3 jersey as a tribute to someone who was a hero to so many on and off the field.

Second, I would also like to recognize SGT Jason Stegall of Trussville, AL. From the age of 10, he knew he wanted to make a difference by joining our military. Even with injuries and several near-death experiences, this desire to serve never wavered. Sergeant Stegall's courage saved countless American lives. On one occasion, he helped stop two suicide bombers from carrying out an attack on a U.S. military base in Iraq. Another time, he led his men away from an ambush, despite being shot just beneath his heart.

Sergeant Stegall earned numerous awards for his heroism, including a Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

His wife Ashley said his plan was to stay in the service for a long time because he loved every minute of being in the military. But this plan was cut short. At age 31, Sergeant Stegall passed away from a mission-related illness while serving on Active Duty. Ashley was left to cope with the loss of her teenage sweetheart and having to raise three sons alone, including a 10-month-old named Landon. Ashley keeps Sergeant Stegall's memory alive by reminding her sons about his sacrifice and his belief in our great country of America.

Sergeant Stegall is honored at the Trussville Veterans Memorial in Alabama.

Finally, I want to honor the memory of SGT Ervin Hullett of Lowndes County, AL. On Christmas Day in 1952, Sergeant Hullett's brother Arthur received the news that his 22-year-old brother had been killed in Korea.

Both brothers had lived and suffered under segregation and discrimination because of their race. Yet both loved this country and were proud to wear the uniform. Both brothers rose to the rank of sergeant. Sergeant Arthur Hullett to this day says that he has no regrets about his military service. He also says he is confident that his brother would say the very same thing.

Alabama is deeply grateful for their strong belief that America is worth fighting for and even worth dying for. We will not forget their unwavering devotion to serving the American dream for all of our future generations.

SGT Ervin Hullett's name is etched forever into the wall of the Korean war monument here in Washington, DC.

The Bible says: Greater love has no man than that he would lay down his life for a friend.

We may never have met Sergeant Jones or Sergeant Stegall or Sergeant Hullett or any of the other fallen he-

roes, but their sacrifice is an example to all.

As we look toward Memorial Day, I hope we will remember this is not just another long weekend; it is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by all of our courageous heroes who didn't want freedom to die on their watch. May we live to ensure their efforts aren't in vain.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, on National Police Week, we celebrate our law enforcement officers, but it is also important to pause and honor those who gave their lives in the line of duty and to pause and remember the families they left behind.

Last year, I stood in this Chamber as we unanimously adopted the National Police Week resolution and honored the 576 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty in 2021. Today, I take this moment to honor the 246 brave men and women who were killed in the line of duty in 2022. In order to rightfully honor these men and women who lost their lives, we must continue to demand policies that will make our communities safer and, by extension, our officers in the line of duty safer.

This topic is incredibly personal to me. My father was a chief of police in our hometown of El Dorado, KS, for 30 years. Here is a picture I share of my father in 1965, a proud new police officer with our family dog and police officer dog, Rinny.

On more than one occasion, my dad put his life on the line to protect our community, and on many other days, he would tell stories of the bravery and courage of his officers when responding to an emergency. These were all my friends, but they were heroes in my eyes, as well, and always will be remembered as such.

But, today, I am sad to report that our men and women in law enforcement feel demoralized. They are constantly put in a no-win situation, and their own city governments are setting them up to fail. In short, like my dad told me recently on a fishing trip, law enforcement officers know this White House and many mayors and city councils do not have their backs. They feel abandoned, and they feel like they get no respect, even to the point of being wrongfully shamed.

These brave men and women need our support now more than ever. Democrat-run cities have demonized law enforcement, making it harder for our men and women in uniform to do their jobs. And, sadly, their dangerous rhetoric and policies are emboldening

criminals at the expense of our officers.

You don't have to look any further than our own Nation's Capital. In November of last year, here in Washington, the DC Council voted to dramatically reform the city's criminal code to favor the rights of the offender during a crime wave across the District. The legislation eliminated mandatory minimum sentences for most crimes and lowered the maximum penalties for crimes such as carjacking and robbery.

The reforms to the city's criminal code came as the city's crime crisis hit a fever pitch.

Listen to this. Our Nation's Capital had 203 homicides in 2022—our Nation's capital, 203 homicides. Carjackings have tripled since 2019. This year, so far, violent crime is up by double digits. Last year, a physician was murdered after he tried to prevent a carjacker from stealing his car. A city council candidate had his car stolen at gunpoint. More recently, a Senate staffer was brutally attacked and stabbed in the head in broad daylight.

I remain fearful for my staff as they walk from their homes to the Capitol. Just recently, I gathered with a group of Senators to discuss policy, but the topic of discussion soon became the safety of our employees and what we could do to help ensure their safety.

With the culture of lawlessness on the streets being embraced by the DC City Council, at a time of low morale and increased crime, it is no wonder why the city has lost over 1,200 officers over the last 2 years, a number that is growing each day.

We need to stop here and talk about the culture of lawlessness started by this White House. It started during his campaign with a summer of applauding violent riots and vandalism.

After being sworn in, the administration purposefully and shamelessly opened our borders, and, even now, this administration turns their heads to violent criminals and terrorists crossing our borders. And with the Democrats embracing cashless bail in Joe Biden's America, we are now not only a country without borders but also a lawless society, where criminals roam the streets and fentanyl poisons our children.

This Nation must change its course before it is too late. To preserve this union, we need law and order. Our Republic will not survive without it.

H.J. RES. 42

I rise today in support of Senator VANCE's motion to nullify the DC Council's Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. By passing this resolution, we can now join our House colleagues in firmly rejecting the council's antipolice, pro-criminal laws and reaffirm our support for our heroic law enforcement officers.

I urge all of my Senate colleagues and the White House to choose people over politics by joining our efforts to

improve public safety in Washington, DC.

With its passage, we can send a clear message to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: We in the Senate will not stand by while our law enforcement officers are vilified and cut off at the knees when trying to do their job.

And with its passage, it will make Washington, DC, a safer place for the millions of visitors who pilgrimage to this great Capital to petition their elected Members of Congress, to regale in our history, and to celebrate our freedom.

This is a bill that makes DC safer, but it also sends a message to the entire country—a message that we want safe streets, we want safe communities, we want safe schools, and we want to do it in a bipartisan way.

Let's signal to every county, every city, and every State that Washington, DC, will no longer be soft on crime and cater to criminals.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to support Senator VANCE's resolution of disapproval for the District of Columbia's anti-police law.

When lives are on the line, when seconds count, members of law enforcement are there putting their lives on the line to protect and serve their communities.

Backing the blue is especially important now, as rogue prosecutors and activist judges undercut those who are out there fighting crime. We see big cities implement policies that make the already difficult job of crime-fighting that much harder. Consequently, crime in our country has risen. Our streets are less safe. Our citizens' safety is under constant threat.

A prime example of this overreach is right here in Washington, DC. Last year, the DC City Council passed a so-called comprehensive policing and justice reform package. The package contains provision after provision that hamstring the police in this city. It limits the tactics they can use to control unruly crowds and riots, and it buries them in paperwork before they can even execute a constitutional search. It strips cops of the power to review body cam evidence, and it allows for their names to be released to the media before an investigation can even begin.

And what has happened since this act went into effect? Well, in the first full year that this law was in effect, DC's homicide rate reached nearly a 20-year high. In just the first 4 months of 2023, there have been over 250 carjackings and an increase in robberies throughout the city.

DC's chief of police recently reported that the average homicide suspect is arrested 11 times before committing murder. Now, it is striking that DC is making it harder to arrest these criminals before they commit such heinous acts. And, at the same time, the Dis-

trict's police union has reported that the department "has lost over 1,200 police officers while only replacing 700." The force is poised to be at its lowest number of officers since the 1970s.

Congress has the authority and the responsibility to ensure public safety in the District; and, furthermore, the symbol of our Nation's Capital under siege from crime is one our country cannot and should not tolerate. As politicians in this city push anti-police laws, it is incumbent upon our country's national leaders to stand up to these legislative attacks on law enforcement.

Now is the time for elected officials to express their full and complete support for the police. We need to fund them; we need to back them; and we need to push back against false narratives.

Strong nations support law enforcement because these are the men and women who stand on that thin blue line between safety and chaos. For the sake of law and order in our Nation's Capital, I stand in support of Senator VANCE's resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Texas.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, last week, President Biden met with top congressional leaders to talk about the debt ceiling. This meeting came 4 months after the United States hit the debt limit and just a few weeks before a potential default.

Considering the high stakes in this looming debt crisis, it is remarkable that it took this long for the President to sit down with the four leaders and to talk about how to solve this problem together. A debt default, of course, would set off an unprecedented economic crisis and inflict real pain on families all across the country.

We all know our economy is just trying to get back on its feet after COVID. Our banking system has endured three high-profile collapses, and inflation continues to wreak havoc on family budgets. If the United States defaults on its debt, those challenges will only intensify. And that is an understatement. Social Security and Medicare benefits could be delayed. Members of the military and Border Patrol would be left without a paycheck. We would see our economy reeling—skyrocketing mortgage rates, sinking stock prices, and instability across our economy.

Given the already fragile state of the economy, default is the very last thing we need. Fortunately, that is a point of agreement between the parties. I haven't heard anybody say it would be a good idea for us to default.

But the \$31.7 trillion question is, What does the path forward look like?

As the American people know, the Republican position is not shrouded in mystery. My Republican colleagues and I have said over and over that a clean debt ceiling increase is not an op-

tion. It simply doesn't have the votes to pass the House or the Senate, making it a nonstarter. So we should move on.

In order to have a chance of passing both Chambers of Congress, a debt ceiling increase must come with some spending reforms. You would think President Biden, after all of his years serving in the Senate, now as President of the United States, would understand that \$31.7 trillion in debt is unsustainable. That is just common sense. But the President has dragged his feet for the last 4 months, saying he would not negotiate—until now. It looks like he, grudgingly, is acknowledging that he has to negotiate, which he knew or should have known all along.

Thanks to the leadership of Speaker MCCARTHY, the House of Representatives passed a bill last month to avert the debt crisis. I think President Biden actually thought that the Speaker of the House would be unsuccessful in passing any increase in the debt ceiling, so he was happy to sit back, hoping that they would fail and then they would come running to him and agree to his demands. But by passing the House bill, they put the ball in President Biden's court and put the onus on him to drop his "no negotiations, no reforms" position, which was absolutely ridiculous in the first place.

For months, the President has said he won't negotiate. He ruled out negotiations over any spending reforms, even though he signed into law trillions of dollars in new debt which has caused us to come to this juncture in the first place. He said he expects Congress to raise the debt ceiling with no conditions attached and let the runaway spending spree continue.

I have said it before, and I will say it again: If you maxed out your credit card, your credit union or your bank is going to say: Well, if you want an increase in your spending limit, you are going to have to talk to us about how you are going to pay this money back.

Those are the sorts of conversations that would occur in our daily lives, and those are the sorts of conversations that the President should have started to have 4 months ago.

Before the President's meeting with congressional leaders last week, his advisers parroted saying his "no negotiations, no reforms" message. The White House insisted time and time again that the President wouldn't drop his demand for a clean debt ceiling increase.

Now we have seen a massive shift in the President's rhetoric. I am actually grateful that he's made that shift in his rhetoric because his earlier position was completely irresponsible and unsustainable. But, now, over the weekend, the President was asked about the status of conversations with Republicans about the debt ceiling. He said:

It is never good to characterize a negotiation in the middle of a negotiation.

So there he goes using the “N” word, “negotiation,” when he said he wouldn’t negotiate.

And while he offered no insight into the discussions themselves, the fact that he described them as negotiations actually marks a major turning point. After insisting for months that he wouldn’t negotiate, the President has finally caved in, as we knew he ultimately would. He has finally accepted the inevitable reality that a bipartisan compromise is the only way to avoid a debt crisis. But that has been obvious from day one.

We have a Democrat majority in the Senate, a Republican majority in the House, and a Democrat in the White House. We know that in order to pass a bill, all three branches—two branches of Congress and the executive branch—would have to agree on something. So by definition, it has to be bipartisan. That is the baseline for success in divided government.

It really is baffling why it took so long for the President to come to terms with this reality, particularly given his long experience as a Member of this body, the U.S. Senate. But I am glad he got off the sidelines, finally, and now is at the negotiating table with Speaker MCCARTHY.

Reportedly, White House and congressional aides worked over the weekend trying to identify the framework for a deal; and the President, as I said, will meet with congressional leaders again today.

The White House is projecting a great deal of optimism, and I hope that is warranted. I mean, I hope that means they will come with a serious offer. But we still have a long way to go because once a deal is reached, there is still going to be a lot of work that needs to be done.

First, the agreement needs to be translated into legislative language. Once the bill is completed, Members need time to review it, then the bill has to pass both Chambers of Congress. This is a process that can occur over several days or much longer. But remember, Secretary Yellen said the United States can default as early as June 1, which is 16 days away.

With this as a backdrop, President Biden is planning to hop on a plane to Japan tomorrow. We are 2 weeks away from a potential economic disaster—largely of the President’s own making for taking his ridiculous “no negotiation” stance for the last 4 months—but we are 2 weeks away from potential economic disaster, bipartisan discussions have begun, and the President is still planning to go overseas.

The President spent months refusing to negotiate. He said he wouldn’t even entertain the idea of negotiations to avoid a debt crisis. Now the President is at the negotiating table. This isn’t a time to get up, walk away, and jump on Air Force One and go overseas. You can’t fly half way around the globe just as negotiations are gaining momentum, because as he accurately said, the

United States cannot default on its debts over the next 2 weeks. So it is crunch time. It is time to roll up their sleeves, get to work, and to work this out.

Speaker MCCARTHY and the House of Representatives have been ready to negotiate since the beginning, but the President wasted months that could have been spent on hashing out a bipartisan compromise to avoid a debt crisis. And he knew it from the very beginning that, ultimately, he would have to negotiate. So now is the time for the President to take this crisis seriously and to own his responsibility to negotiate a successful outcome.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MCKIERNAN

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a departing member of my team. This is the first time in 7 years that I am delivering a farewell speech regarding one of my team members that wasn’t written by my speechwriter, Mike McKiernan, because Mike is the departing team member we are honoring today.

In June of 2016, he left a glamorous job at the Motion Picture Association of America to join my office. He was excited to return to Congress ahead of what many anticipated would be the incoming Hillary Clinton administration. Well, as we all know, history doesn’t always work out along the path that one anticipates. It worked out a little differently.

Six months later, President Trump was sworn into office, and Mike found himself in the middle of many intensive issues, writing speech after speech regarding the new administration’s policies—often opposing those policies—and the administration’s nominees—often nominees who didn’t seem to have the qualifications necessary for the roles they were nominated to.

Then not far into 2017, we arrived at a watershed moment of Trump’s first year in office: Trump’s determination to complete the theft of a Supreme Court seat through his nomination of Neil Gorsuch. It was Mike McKiernan who compiled a whole set of big three-ring binders with details of Supreme Court history, the influence of powerful special interests on the Court, and, of course, every detail, large and small, about Judge Gorsuch’s record, enabling me to hold the floor for over 15 hours, attempting to focus America’s attention on the grave injustice that for the first time in American history, a Supreme Court seat had been stolen from one administration and passed on to the next with no hearing or consideration of the nominee from the previous President.

It was a long night—a long night for Mike McKiernan, a long night for me—but an important effort to highlight something very important about the politicization and polarization of one of our three key institutions, the Supreme Court of the United States.

If you asked members of my staff for a couple of words or a phrase to describe Mike, you might hear the words “steady presence.” Throughout the years, he has brought a cool, calm, and collected aura, even during moments of considerable stress.

Being a speechwriter might seem like a quiet, intellectual job, but here in the Senate, chaos finds us all—many moments of frantically making last-minute edits, last-minute edits on a script for a speech or a conversation over Zoom, conversations recorded as a video greeting to an organization operating back in Oregon, or crafting comments with only an hour or two of notice to make, to block, or to request a unanimous consent request on an amendment or on a bill.

There was, for every speechwriter and for Mike, the near daily challenge of finding just the right story or just the right analogy or just the right poem to illuminate a commentary over a policy, as, indeed, Mike delivered just the perfect poem on butterflies last year for my closing remarks at the Monarch Summit.

It was Mike who crafted my 2017 quiz show series that I conducted here on the floor of the Senate featuring weekly climate facts, trying to find a new way to engage Americans about the challenges facing us with the evolving impact on our forests and our fishing and our farms and so many aspects of our environment. Our quiz show did not become the smash hit on YouTube that we had hoped for, but at least the Senate pages perhaps learned a thing or two from the quiz shows, and we had fun doing them. Our climate work also led to other fun moments, like hosting Bill Nye the Science Guy in my office and doing a joint video on climate science.

Mike always had the extremity challenge of deciphering my handwriting—handwriting I can’t decipher after I have been away from it for even a few moments. I have no idea what I wrote, but I am sure it was excellent—figure it out.

Mike, I think we are sending you away with a certificate in advanced handwriting decoding.

Along with the fun and good humor that Mike brought to the team, he also brought deep care and purpose to some of the most challenging moments we have handled as an office. He found great meaning in bringing, in his words, “to life as accurately and impactfully as possible” the stories of those who are oppressed and suffering.

When the previous administration tried to take DACA status away from Dreamers, Mike helped me share the stories of young Americans who have known no other home.

When President Trump sent Federal agents to attack Portlanders on the streets in the summer of 2020, Mike helped me to share the experience of those whose civil liberties had been shattered and to hold the administration accountable.

When President Trump implemented his horrific tactic of tearing children out of the arms of their parents at the border, Mike was instrumental in sharing the stories of those families with the world—stories of little children with hopes and dreams who simply wanted to play, to learn, to be loved, and be able to go to school; parents who would do anything to protect their children from violence and oppression and build for those little ones a safer future.

Mike, we will miss your wordsmithing. We will miss your adorable photos and hilarious stories of your two young children, Clara and Braden, and we really require you to keep sharing them as you go forward. Most of all, we will miss your kind, compassionate, mission-driven spirit that embodies what it means to be on our team. You are leaving big shoes to fill, but we are thrilled that you will be staying in the extended Team Merkley family, going to join our former deputy chief of staff J.P. Piorkowski in the Director's Office at the Peace Corps.

One thing our world needs more of is peace and the cross-cultural understanding that comes from Americans going out around the globe to help communities thrive.

I know that in your next chapter and whatever else you do throughout your career, you will never stop working to build a better world, and what better mission could there be for one's life than building a better world?

I wish you all the best. And thank you so much for being a member of the team.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:27 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE POLICING AND JUSTICE REFORM AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022—Continued

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following disposition of the joint resolution, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 175, Jeremy C. Daniel, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois; further, that the Senate recess from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for the all-Senators briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. VANCE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.J. RES. 42

Mr. VANCE. Mr. President, I speak today on behalf of millions of Americans who come to Washington, DC, and want this to be a safe city where they can enjoy it, where they can view the beautiful monuments, and where they can actually live in this city comfortably and in safety.

I speak for the staff members who have seen this city deteriorate over the last decade, and I speak for the many people who have no connection to this city but want it to be a beautiful and safe place to live and work because this is where the people's business is ultimately done.

A very simple problem that we have is the DC violent crime rate and the nonviolent crime rate have gone up way too quickly, in part because the DC Council has passed a number of statutes and a number of laws that make it harder for police officers to do their job.

I will not go through the laundry list of the act that we are dealing with here today and the number of ways in which it makes police less safe in doing their job and makes it more difficult for them to do their jobs in the first place, but a few things in particular jump out. First of all, the law that we are trying to undo bans or severely restricts ordinary law enforcement practices, including the use of riot gear to disperse violent crowds; it makes it harder for police to actually give chase to violent offenders; and it also forces police to go through these ridiculous exhaustion requirements before they can use lethal force to protect themselves and people around them.

This is why a number of DC police officers and organizations don't agree with this act. It is why they think that it makes them less safe, and it is why we have to go in a different direction in this community.

I will close by saying that whether you are a Democrat or a Republican—whatever your politics are—we should be proud of this incredibly beautiful city. The people sent us here to do a

job; they sent us here to do that job proudly; and it is hard to do it if we are surrounded by crime and we are surrounded by lawlessness.

I want this to be the kind of place where Ohioans can come and visit, where they can walk the streets with their children without fear of their personal safety; and, unfortunately, DC is going in the wrong direction.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote commence immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 42

Under the previous order, the joint resolution is considered read a third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. VANCE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO).

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 126 Leg.]

YEAS—56

Blackburn	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hassan	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rosen
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	King	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Lee	Sinema
Cotton	Lummis	Sullivan
Cramer	Manchin	Tester
Crapo	Marshall	Thune
Cruz	McConnell	Tillis
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Ernst	Mullin	Vance
Fischer	Murkowski	Wicker
Graham	Paul	Young
Grassley	Ricketts	

NAYS—43

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Smith
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cardin	Luján	Van Hollen
Carper	Markey	Warner
Casey	Menendez	Warnock
Coons	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Ossoff	Wyden
Fetterman	Padilla	
Gillibrand	Peters	

NOT VOTING—1

Barrasso

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) was passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jeremy C. Daniel, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, this week our Nation observes National Police Week. That observation began in 1962, when President Kennedy claimed the first Police Week as a time dedicated to pay tribute to our law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty.

President Kennedy's proclamation stated that, during this week, "all of our people may join in commemorating police officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens."

This afternoon I rise with my colleagues to honor the dedication and sacrifice of our law enforcement officers.

Over the course of this week, we pay tribute to 443 officers who gave their lives in the line of duty in 2022.

Saturday night, just a few days ago, hundreds of police officers, family members, and others, gathered for the annual candlelight vigil honoring our fallen officers. Among those memorialized this week are four brave Kansas officers.

Deputy Sheriff Sidnee Carter, with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, was tragically killed in an automobile crash while responding to a night disturbance call.

We also lost Sheriff Robert Craft from Marion County, Officer David Ingle from the Iola Police Department, and Sergeant Stacy Murrow from the Linn County Sheriff's Department—all Kansans.

In fact, all Americans are grateful to those officers for their service and honor them in making the ultimate sacrifice for the benefit of others, for the benefit of the people they knew in their community, but also for the benefit of people they never met.

While the purpose of Police Week is to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, we also should remember how those police officers' lives as husbands and wives and mothers and fathers—as members of their communities—they

were people who happened to wear a uniform, who happened to take up a career to serve others, to protect and defend.

From educating kids in school about the dangers of substance abuse or providing driver safety education, coordinating neighborhood watch associations, and speaking at business luncheons, schools and community townhall meetings, law enforcement strive to make our community a safe place to live and raise a family and to work to foster a more safe and secure environment; in a sense, to provide justice.

During this National Police Week and throughout the year, we should remember that law enforcement needs our support. We should provide them the resources they need to do their jobs. We must also give them the tools they need to build and strengthen the bonds of trust with those they serve and our best efforts to address the underlying challenges that face our communities and individuals in their lives.

I serve as the lead Republican on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee with appropriations jurisdiction over the Department of Justice. I am committed to making certain our law enforcement officers have the resources and support they need to do their job effectively and safely.

We honor the service and sacrifice of our Nation's fallen law enforcement officers, remember those who departed, and acknowledge and express our gratitude for the sacrifices all law enforcement officers make every day they wear the badge.

During this week—and, really, every other week of the year—we should, and we do, honor those we have lost and remember the families they left behind. We ask God to comfort them in their time of grief and be a source of strength for them in their lives. May God bless our police and our local law enforcement officers. May God bless them as they do their duties, and may God hold in His arms those we have lost this past year.

RECESS

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now stand in recess until 5:30 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:32 p.m., recessed until 5:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. MARKEY).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today to address the Senator from Alabama's decision to hold hundreds of nominations—literally hundreds of nominations—that have been submitted to this body, and I want to join my colleagues who have taken the ini-

tiative and stand alongside with them and our men and women in uniform who protect our right to speak in these Halls every day and our other fundamental liberties in this country.

We ask our men and women in uniform to do more now than ever before, particularly as we are engaged in countering Vladimir Putin's murderous assault in Ukraine. I have visited them in Germany, where they are training Ukrainians. I have spoken to them at the border in Poland, where they are providing essential military weapons to the Ukrainians. I have seen them at work all around the globe, as have my colleagues.

Even though we are at peace formally right now, it is only because they are a deterrent to our adversaries and enemies around the globe. The threats are rapidly evolving and rising, and the U.S. military is the only force that can stem the tide of autocracy, which is the reason why I am so, so outraged that the Senator from Alabama is choosing to cripple our military by placing on hold a series of critical nominations.

Earlier this year, Secretary Austin issued a memo, a policy memo, guaranteeing that servicemembers would have easier access to reproductive healthcare. They can now take non-chargeable leave and receive per diem while traveling to receive care, finally establishing a parity with every other medical procedure, every other healthcare procedure available to DOD personnel.

The Secretary's decision rectified a DOD policy that marginalized the women who serve in our Nation and provide that essential guarantee of peace and freedom. It damaged readiness. It truly does put people first that we have corrected that egregious error.

Instead of celebrating that servicemembers now have access to healthcare and policy programs that they have consistently sought, Senator TUBERVILLE called the policy—and I am quoting—"a waste of time and resources." He believes that protecting the well-being and privacy of those who serve—and again, I am using his words—is "immoral" and "illegal." I disagree. I couldn't disagree more. Servicemembers shouldn't have to wonder whether they are going to receive healthcare.

Providing access to reproductive care certainly isn't a distraction; it increases readiness and preparedness and the strength of our force. He is doing the very thing he accuses the new policy of doing, which is to damage readiness and jeopardize our Nation's security. He is doing it by holding up the President's nominees.

Let me just talk about those individuals whose nominations he has blocked.

Rear Admiral George Wikoff is the President's nominee to be the next commander of the Navy's 5th Fleet. He is an accomplished Navy aviator, a former TOPGUN instructor, and has

extensive experience in the theater he has been nominated to command. His service is essential to the 15,000 personnel responsible for defending American interests in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Seas. It isn't a luxury or convenience; it is essential that he be there.

Rear Admiral Fred Kacher was nominated to lead the Navy's 7th Fleet, which is tasked with deterring Chinese aggression across the Pacific Ocean. Nearly 30,000 sailors and marines are assigned to the 7th Fleet and constitute our first line of defense in the Pacific.

While Iran and China search for every opportunity to threaten American interests in the Middle East and Pacific, Senator TUBERVILLE's response is to deprive the 5th and 7th Fleets of their incoming commanders.

He is holding our next military representative to NATO, Rear Admiral Shoshana Chatfield, a remarkable officer with more than 30 years' experience. She is the recipient of the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Legion of Merit, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

During the largest land war in Europe since World War II, the Senator from Alabama is blocking Admiral Chatfield's promotion. Again, not a luxury, not a convenience, not superfluous; it is essential to our national defense.

And he is blocking MG David Hodne's nomination to the role of deputy commander for the Army's Futures Command. That Futures Command position oversees the design of force capabilities into the future and ensures our soldiers maintain lethal advantages on the battlefield.

His hold is preventing the Army's next Vice Chief and Chief of Staff from assuming command.

Later this year, Gen. Charles Brown's nomination to become the next Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will be blocked if the Senator from Alabama does not lift his hold.

Let's be clear about what is at stake here. Blocking these nominations, simply because of his putting personal beliefs above national security, is a threat to our national defense.

He is doing Putin and Xi's jobs for them. He claims that this action is about the President trying to legislate from the White House. He claims that the Department of Defense had an abortion policy for decades.

Respectfully—and I mean very respectfully—to a colleague in this body, I would remind him for decades that women in the military had to hide their abortion from their commanders and that referrals for care operated on a whisper network.

If it were up to the Senator from Alabama, he would override the medical recommendations of military doctors and commanders across the force.

I hope that he will stand with the military and their families and forgo

future action blocking this essential set of nominations.

The Senator from Alabama is entitled to his opinion. The military that he is so keen to stop from advancing its nominees defends the Constitution that gives him that right to his opinions and his right to speak from his heart and his conscience. But families who sacrifice so much already are waiting for this body to act. They are waiting so they can enroll their children into new schools, find new churches, start new jobs. Harming the military and their families serves only the interests of our adversary.

I urge my colleague from Alabama to lift his hold and let the military continue to defend our freedom from those who seek to destroy it.

And, in the meantime, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 46 through 52, Calendar Nos. 82 through 107, Calendar Nos. 110 through 113, Calendar Nos. 130 through 139; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I am here to express my support for Senator TUBERVILLE, who is, of course, opposing the Department of Defense's ongoing attempt to use taxpayer funding to fund abortion.

Now, until recently, this was an understood policy. The policy to which my friend and colleague refers is, of course, embodied in a statute. It is not just a policy. It is a policy rooted in law. Under 10 USC, section 1093, the Pentagon is prohibited from using Department of Defense funds or facilities to perform abortions.

You see, because, in a word, divided as a country on issues related to abortion; people have sharply divided views on this. In fact, there is a pretty wide spectrum of views. But one thing that does tend to unite Americans overwhelmingly is the idea that, regardless of how you feel about abortion, you don't want your U.S. taxpayer dollars going to fund abortions. People don't want that. There is overwhelming bipartisan consensus among the American people on that.

Only here in Washington is this regarded as controversial because Americans just consider that common sense—common sense that has been, for decades, codified in Federal law.

The last time I read the Constitution, Congress makes the laws, not the Department of Defense. And when there are laws that the Department of Defense doesn't like, the Department of Defense isn't free to just reimagine

the laws as the Secretary of Defense wishes those laws were written.

And yet the Department of Defense's policy memo from just a few months ago does just that. It attempts to sneak around the laws that we have already passed.

This policy memo violates at least the spirit, quite arguably the letter of the law. They are trying to get around that, and they have made no secret of that fact.

So Senator TUBERVILLE is right to oppose this egregious policy. We should commend his courage and his dedication to upholding the Constitution and standing for those who cannot stand for themselves.

And so I would say, let this be a message to Secretary Austin. Look, Secretary Austin, if you want to make the laws, run for Congress, run for the House, run for the Senate. But you cannot legislate from the E-Ring of the Pentagon. It is not your job. That is our job, not yours.

Until then, Secretary Austin, stand down—stand down, soldier—and let the lawmakers actually make the laws. But you certainly don't get to rewrite them just because you feel like it.

Now, as to the suggestion made by my friend and colleague moments ago that Senator TUBERVILLE would override the recommendations made by board-certified medical doctors to women as to the best outcome for their health, it is not at all fair. It is completely inaccurate. In fact, it is utterly untethered from what Senator TUBERVILLE is doing and what he has ever said on this. On no planet is Senator TUBERVILLE trying to tell women in the military or dependents of military families that they may not have an abortion. All he is standing behind is what Federal law already says, which is that you can't use Federal funds or Federal facilities within the Department of Defense to fund abortions. And that is exactly what is happening here.

Now, as to the specific personnel mentioned just moments ago, when we look at, say, Admiral Chatfield or Admiral Wikoff or General Hodne's or anyone else on the list, if there is any one of those people whose service, whose promotion is so mission critical to American national security, let's bring those forward. There are mechanisms, procedures, in the Senate, after all, that would allow not only each of them but everyone on this list to be confirmed.

Yes, it takes a little bit more time. But what the Department of Defense and those advocating for its position here are doing is coming to us as U.S. Senators and asking us to waive our procedural rights, to waive our procedural objections so that they can have their policy.

Senator TUBERVILLE has raised a legitimate, bona fide opposition to that policy because it is in violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of 10 U.S.C. 1093.

It takes a lot of gumption—that is audacity—for the Department of Defense to ask for our help to facilitate the confirmation of these nominees when they have taken away from us the prerogative that is uniquely ours.

It is no coincidence that the very first clause, in the first section, of the first article of the Constitution says that “[a]ll legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.”

Article 1, section 7 makes even more abundantly clear that we are the sole lawmaking organ of the Federal Government; that in order to pass a Federal law, you have to get the same legislative proposal passed in the House and then in the Senate and then submit it to the President for signature, veto, or acquiescence.

Secretary Austin has bypassed all of that. He would make himself the legislative and the executive branches at once. It is not his role. It is not his job. And he has the audacity to come here and question our patriotism, question our commitment to American military readiness, simply because we will not expedite his own request to get these people moved through faster.

If he wants to circumvent these processes ordained by the Constitution, Senator TUBERVILLE is in no position where he has to agree to help them expedite it, nor should he.

On that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about how we are currently failing our most senior military leaders, a failing caused entirely by my colleague the senior Senator from Alabama.

Members of our All-Volunteer Force answer the call to service by choice. No one is making them serve. They choose to serve. For their sacrifices, we owe them many things—fair pay, healthcare, veterans’ benefits—to make sure they land on their feet after their service is done. And we must also make sure they can do the hard, sometimes dangerous, work they volunteered for without partisan politics getting in their way.

And yet my colleague has placed an indefinite hold on the nominations of all general officers, preventing a still growing number of our most senior leaders from taking on the challenges of their next positions and leaving critical gaps in our military leadership.

My colleague from Alabama is harming our military readiness and our servicemembers not out of concern about the promotion process or the ethical or professional qualifications of any of the nominees, he is doing it to score cheap political points, to fundraise with his base, and to try to force a policy that he personally disagrees with to change, not by legislating it like the voters of Alabama

sent him here to do but holding our most senior military leaders hostage.

If my colleague had legitimate concerns about the fairness of the promotion process or felt these nominees were not qualified ethical leaders, this might be a different story.

In fact, as my colleague pointed out, I once held some, but certainly not all, nominations. But I only did it for 14 days because I was attempting to stop the administration in the White House at the time from inserting politics into a nonpartisan promotion process.

I had legitimate, well-founded concerns that an Army colonel—a single colonel’s promotion would be withheld from consideration as political retaliation against him.

I held the list of promotions for just 14 days until I received assurances that he had received fair consideration, just like the rest of his peers, and then I released my hold.

Put it another way. I wanted to make sure that the military promotion process—the one we use to make sure our military is led by the best, most qualified people—was not being politicized.

My colleague is doing the exact opposite. He is trying to change DOD policy not by legislating but by holding up well-deserved promotions to the detriment of leaders who have willingly served decades in uniform, all the servicemembers who are supposed to serve under them, and our national security because he wants to insert politics into this historically nonpartisan process.

If he doesn’t like the DOD policy, then he can engage in the NDAA legislative process to change it. It is coming up. The Senator will have a chance to do that.

The nominations that my colleague is holding represent experienced professionals who, if confirmed, will tackle some of the biggest challenges that our military faces.

In some cases, the positions are completely vacant, and that job just isn’t being done at all. I will only talk about a few of these nominations today, but the already long list grows each month.

In a moment, I will ask the Senate to confirm MG Heidi J. Hoyle, U.S. Army, to be a lieutenant general and the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, of the U.S. Army. The Army G-4 develops, implements, and oversees Army strategy, policy, plans, and programming for logistics and sustainment, some of the most challenging, if not the most challenging, issues for the Army to address.

Take it from a broken-down old soldier, logistics might not be sexy, but without them the Army doesn’t run. And the logistics and sustainment needs of tomorrow’s fight will be very different from those of the last wars we have fought.

We need to be working through these problems now, figuring out new strategies and plans, developing new systems that will serve our soldiers better. That is exactly what the Army G-4 does. It is not optional; it is necessary.

And we need Major General Hoyle’s leadership, or it is our troops, out in front, who will suffer.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Calendar No. 48, Major General Heidi J. Hoyle, to be Lieutenant General; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Before the Chair entertains that motion, the Chair would like to remind all Senators that rule XIX reads as follows:

No Senator in debate shall, directly or indirectly, by any form of words impute to another Senator or to other Senators any conduct or motive unworthy or unbecoming of a Senator.

Senators are reminded to address each other in the third person and through the Chair.

Is there an objection to the request?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object. Again, for the fourth or fifth time, I am fighting against taxpayer-funded abortions—funding from taxpayers that was never, ever approved by this Congress.

By the way, poll after poll shows that Americans agree with exactly what I am doing. The American people do not support taxpayer-funded abortions. Period.

Democrats have had a few retired Secretaries, in the last few weeks, agree with them; but other retired military leaders and thousands of servicemembers and veterans just happen to agree with me, just like the majority of Americans. In fact, earlier today, a letter representing more than 3,000 servicemembers and veterans was sent in full support of my hold. Those servicemembers and veterans said:

This policy is not just illegal, it shamefully politicizes the military, circumvents the authority of Congress, and exceeds the authority of the Department of Defense.

They sent that letter to Leader SCHUMER and Leader MCCONNELL. I would encourage them to please read it.

Also, earlier today, retired Lt. Gen. William Boykin and retired Lt. Gen. James Carafano penned an op-ed condemning the Pentagon’s policies. They said:

The Pentagon’s new abortion policy has everything to do with activist politics and nothing to do with Congress’s obligation to raise and maintain armed forces to provide for the common defense.

So I object, and I will continue to object.

I will end with one comment from the retired military leaders’ op-ed:

America is a global power with global interests and responsibilities. We can’t afford a

military distracted by politics. The quickest way to make this right is for Secretary Austin to immediately rescind his radical abortion policy.

Because of this, I object.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). Objection is heard.

The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I am disappointed the Senate is not able to confirm MG Heidi Hoyle today. As I said earlier, the work Major General Hoyle would do, if confirmed, is vital to the success of our Army.

And now I want to consider another patriot whose promotion is being held by my colleague from Alabama: Brig. Gen. Rebecca Sonkiss, U.S. Air Force.

Brigadier General Sonkiss is the current commander of the 618th Air Operations Center, the Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott Air Force Base in my home State of Illinois.

The 618th Air Operations Center is responsible for operational planning, as well as scheduling, directing, and assessing a fleet of about 1,100 aircraft that conduct combat delivery and strategic airlift, air refueling, global air mobility support, and aeromedical operations around the world.

General Sonkiss, a command pilot who has had a distinguished career of service to her country, is leading the 618th Air Operations Center as it does some of the most complex, most important, least celebrated work in the Air Force. And yet her promotion is being held up, not because of concerns about the fairness of the process or her own qualifications. No, her promotion has not been granted because one Senator would rather use her and other servicemembers like her to try to manipulate the DOD into doing what he wants instead of engaging in the legislative process.

I ask that it be in order to make the same request with respect to Calendar No. 110, 23 nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, here again, the Senate has procedures for dealing with any nomination, including these military promotions. These could be brought up individually; they could be voted on; and those whose promotions have the greatest urgency could be dealt with. We could stay in session until all these are done. Neither Senator TUBERVILLE nor any other Senator, to my knowledge, would interfere with that, nor could we.

What Senator TUBERVILLE refuses to do, with very good reason, is to pretend like nothing has happened; pretend like nothing has changed; to pretend that he didn't have repeated conversations with high-ranking officials within the Department of Defense in recent months expressing his concerns about rumors that this very policy was being considered; to pretend that he didn't tell them then there would be serious consequences if they decided to proceed in violation of 10 U.S.C., section 1093. No, this is not fair to put this on him.

When the Pentagon comes crawling back after they did what they did to him—after they did what they did to the law, to all Americans—that is manifestly unfair. To all of a sudden put it on him to make sure it is his job to make sure that everyone gets confirmed—and, oh, by the way, you also have to help—you are being told—you have to help the Pentagon, even though the Pentagon has just cut you off at the knees.

Look, it is very clear. When the law says you may not use Federal taxpayers for abortions, that is a thing. When you have Department of Defense specific legislation that says you may not use Department of Defense funds, you may not use Department of Defense facilities to perform abortions, that is a thing.

To argue otherwise and to try to point out that this policy memo somehow complies with that is too cute by half.

No. 1, it is still, quite arguably, in violation of the letter of the law. You are still doing this to bring about an abortion. You are using Federal taxpayer dollars from the Department of Defense so that someone has an abortion. You are paying for someone's travel to that State—per diem to that State—3 weeks of paid leave time to that State, and it is specific to abortion. That is what that is.

If, in any other circumstance, someone were asked: Are you using Federal dollars for abortions? The answer would be, unequivocally, "yes."

I know those raising these consent requests are trying to get Senator TUBERVILLE to capitulate, trying to get him to reverse course, trying to get him to help the Department of Defense when the Department of Defense hid from him what they were going to do, then undercut Federal law in the process, that is not fair. That is what this is about. That is what you are trying to do.

I am happy to stand with Senator TUBERVILLE in defending his rights. On that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, by refusing to confirm nominations to positions of vital importance within the DOD, the senior Senator from Alabama and some of his colleagues continue to risk our military readiness and our national security. And they continue to deny patriots, who have voluntarily served our country for decades, the promotions they have earned as a means of trying to influence policy through extortion, instead of through legislation or oversight.

I call on all my colleagues to join me in opposing the actions of the senior Senator from Alabama for the sake of our military readiness and for those who serve.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, to the extent any one of these nominations—or

all of them taken together—to the extent military readiness is invoked, implicated, is threatened, challenged, by all means, let's figure out a workaround. By all means, let's have the Department of Defense realize that as this policy debate happens, it should be the very last entity putting American national security at risk.

So if that is what this is resulting in, then the Department of Defense, with all due respect, needs to stand down on this until such time as this can be debated and discussed.

The fact is that every single year—every single year—the Department of Defense has the luxury that very few other branches have in that we devote an enormous amount of time to debating a policy bill—every year, year after year, going back for the last half century—the National Defense Authorization Act. This is the kind of thing that, if it is going to be addressed, if they want a change of law, then that change of law ought to be pursued on the floor of the Senate.

The National Defense Authorization Act would present an opportunity for the Department of Defense to pursue that change. It can do it that way. It can do it in a stand-alone bill if it wants to. What it may not do is change the law on its own.

So, look, to the extent that this implicates military readiness—which let's just take those words on their own face—that seems to me that should apply with at least as much force, if not a "for sure" to the Department of Defense rather than to Senator TUBERVILLE. It is the Department of Defense that is asking for his help. It is the Department of Defense that is using Federal funds to facilitate the performance of abortions.

If anyone is threatening national security, it is not Senator TUBERVILLE. And if these are threatening America's national security, particularly those you have identified, bring those to the floor. We have procedures to do that. It takes time.

I understand, perhaps, that is not what this Democratic majority of the Senate wants to do. That is the Democratic majority's prerogative. But that being the prerogative, they can't all of a sudden put that on Senator TUBERVILLE.

Finally, as to the suggestion that Senator TUBERVILLE is extorting anyone—extortion, of course, is a crime. That is a really inappropriate reference to use here, but let's go with it for a second for purposes of this discussion. Who is extorting whom? Who is it that receives all this money and then goes about saying: We are going to change the law. Now, it is up to you to help us make sure that every one of these people gets a promotion.

If you are going to use that term, you have to realize it cuts both ways. I don't think it has any place on the floor. But if you are going to use it, it swings both ways. And it may well hit you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am going to yield to my colleague from Hawaii in just one moment.

I would like to clarify—because I am a member of the Armed Services Committee, as Senator TUBERVILLE is. We work together on a lot of issues. I will support his right, as part of the NDAA process, to raise this issue as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act.

As my colleague from Illinois has rightly suggested, and I think we can all agree, that is a clear forum to raise any issue. We disagree—deeply disagree—on this one.

And there are many votes on the NDAA through the markup session that we will conduct over not just several hours but several days. And every year, we report out from the Armed Services Committee—in the 12 years I have been on it—consistently, a bipartisan measure. There may be a couple of no votes, but it is deeply bipartisan. We can work together on our national defense.

Blocking these nominations is contrary to that spirit, in my view, because it, basically, prevents us from moving forward with vital leadership in the U.S. military if there is bipartisan support to advance. So I am hoping that, again, my colleague from Alabama, whom we work with on many issues, will simply take that forum as a way to move forward.

I yield to the Senator from Hawaii.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, earlier today, every Member of this body received a briefing on the ongoing threat Iran presents to our national security and that of our allies around the world. It was a stark reminder of the serious challenges and threats the United States and our allies face around the world. It also underscores the importance of ensuring our military is ready and able to respond to any threats that may arise.

Right now, though, one Senator is willfully undermining our readiness. I happen to chair the Readiness Subcommittee on the Armed Services Committee. Our servicemembers can only do their jobs if they are in place to do so, and, right now, the Senator from Alabama's hold on 196 general and flag officer promotions is preventing these brave men and women from entering new roles in which they are urgently needed.

Since March, the Senator from Alabama has refused to allow movement on any of these promotions, depriving our military of critical leaders in key posts around the globe. Among the nearly 200 promotions currently on hold is the next commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, who is responsible for overseeing the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program, a critical infrastructure investment in our public shipyards in Hawaii and across the country.

The blanket hold also includes the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency, or DLA. DLA oversees the defense supply chain for all services and will be essential to the safe defueling and closure of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility on Oahu, a leak which impacted over 90,000 people living on Oahu.

The Senator from Alabama is also holding nominees to command the Fifth and Seventh Fleets, which are responsible for deterring threats from Iran and China, respectively. For any Member of this body to willfully degrade the readiness of these units is, in my view, unthinkable irresponsible.

To be clear, these are not controversial nominees. These are decorated, patriotic men and women who have devoted their adult lives to serving our Nation and who wish only to continue doing so.

My colleague from Alabama is placing a blanket hold on close to 200 promotions in the DOD because he disagrees with DOD's commonsense, humane policy to allow travel for servicemembers seeking reproductive services.

Thousands of servicemembers are posted in States that do not allow them to receive reproductive services necessitating this travel. This is a policy my colleague objects to, resulting in his hold on these promotions.

The travel policy does not include paying for abortions. How many times must this point have to be made? Why do my colleagues on the other side of the aisle continue to read into the policy that which is not there?

Nowhere does the policy allow the DOD to pay for abortion. There is no language in this policy that talks about facilitating the provision of abortion. Show me this language. You can't because it is not there. This is a travel policy for reproductive services.

So my colleague from Alabama is more concerned with pushing his ideological agenda than with the realities our troops face, even if that means depriving servicemembers of critical healthcare.

In addition to undermining our national security, this reckless hold is creating chaos for these servicemembers, many of whom will have to relocate their families and put their children in new schools.

These promotions are carefully timed to ensure critical positions don't go unfilled, and also that the servicemembers and their families can transition into new homes and schools with as little disruption as possible.

Beyond being reckless and fundamentally ill-informed, the Senator from Alabama's—I consider it a stunt; it is a slap in the face of our servicemembers. They should be able to do their jobs without political interference, without someone putting their ideological agenda ahead of the need for us to make these decisions.

For the sake of our servicemembers and our country, we need to end this

dangerous blockade. That is why, in a moment, I will be asking the Senate to confirm Calendar No. 85. If confirmed, this nominee would command the Navy's Seventh Fleet, which at any given moment has almost 75 ships and submarines and over 27,000 sailors and marines, operating and in contact with both the Chinese and Russian Navies.

Encompassing many allies, partners, and competitors, the Pacific and its forward-deployed fleet should not be left without its appropriate commander.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 85; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I rise to object. I continue hearing about this word "readiness" from my colleagues.

We have had a law in place for nearly 40 years. The law provides taxpayer-funded abortion in case of rape, incest, or threat to the life of the mother. Nobody, in 40 years—nobody—on either side of the aisle has complained about this. This was a bipartisan consensus 40 years ago.

The law was not affected by the Dobbs decision. The Dobbs decision did not apply to Federal military installations.

On July 8, 2022, just 2 weeks after the Supreme Court ruling, the Biden administration said they needed to expand abortion to counteract the Dobbs decision. By memo, they said the VA would pay for abortion travel and time off. By memo, they said HHS would pay for late-term abortions. By memo, they covered all Federal workers, and they acted to expand abortion at the Pentagon.

The Pentagon is now giving servicemembers and their dependents reimbursements for travel and additional paid time off for elective abortions.

We are not talking about cases of rape, incest, or threat to the health of the mother. Despite what some of my colleagues have said, we are talking about elective abortions. Despite what some of my colleagues have said, that is what this is all about.

Ordinary servicemembers get 30 days off a year—30 days off. Under this policy, servicemembers who get abortions would get 30 days off plus an additional 3 weeks. Servicemembers who get abortions get paid more time off than servicemembers who do not get abortions.

The Pentagon is spending money without the consent of Congress. This money was never authorized. It was never appropriated. Nobody voted for

this. Even my friend from Connecticut didn't vote for this policy. The Democrats' strongest abortion supporters never voted for this. Nobody voted for this, and now Senators are down here defending this.

They are outsourcing the work of the U.S. Senate. Follow the law or change the law in this building.

That is the reason I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 46 through 52, No. 82 through No. 107, No. 110 through No. 113, No. 133 through No. 139; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, again, when faced with a problem, the Department of Defense has decided to anoint itself a lawmaker, even though it is not in charge of making laws. It doesn't have that power. That power is reserved to us—to us exclusively—under article I, section 1 and article I, section 7.

So if Secretary Austin wants to make laws, he should run for the Senate or he can run for the House. But he can't do this from his perch as Secretary of Defense. That doesn't work in our system of government.

So here again, we are being asked to consider national security implications of these advancements and of any delay that might be caused as a result of the Department's unwise decision to try to remake abortion law, to try to rewrite laws restricting the use of Federal funds in facilities within the Department of Defense for abortions.

I have another idea. I have an idea about how we might resolve this. I can't speak for Senator TUBERVILLE, but I can speak for what I could advocate for Senator TUBERVILLE. I can speak for what I suspect Senator TUBERVILLE would seriously consider.

We can deal with all this right now. We could probably get all of these folks confirmed tonight if they will just do one thing. This would be a nice compromise position. I suspect he would withdraw his objections and we could get everybody confirmed if the Department of Defense were to suspend this policy. Suspend it and say: Do you know what? You are right. We should have addressed this legislatively. We will bring it up in connection with the Defense Authorization Act.

You know, they may well be able to get the votes in the Senate to do that. I am not here to prejudge that position, but that would be the appropriate

way of doing it. And that, by the way, would allow my friends on the other side of the aisle to accomplish what they want, and really to accomplish what Senator TUBERVILLE wants, which is to get these folks confirmed.

But what he is not willing to do is ignore the fact that they are rewriting the law to their own image, to their own liking, to their own political preferences. That is not something they can do, and that is certainly not something they can ask us to play a part in doing.

Senator TUBERVILLE is standing on principle. He is standing for the law. He is standing for the principle that we understand. The American people, while sharply divided on many issues related to abortion, are united—overwhelmingly united—on the fact that we do not use taxpayer funding for abortions. That is what they are doing here.

So you want to get these folks confirmed? We can get them confirmed tonight, but the Department of Defense needs to suspend this until such time as it can get the law changed through Congress.

If that is on the table, I would love to discuss it. I would love to advocate to Senator TUBERVILLE on behalf of that, if you are willing to consider it. But that is not on the table at the moment, and on that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I think this is now the fifth time that I have been out here with the Senator from Alabama. We started this off some time ago, and we obviously have a profound and fundamental disagreement here. You know, I am deeply worried about this because I don't think this is actually about the Senators who are here. It is about people serving in our Armed Forces. It is about people living in the United States of America, and it is about some really fundamental things that have changed in the United States.

The Senators on the other side of the aisle, tonight, have been talking about a 40-year consensus about the funding of abortions by the Federal Government, which is not actually even at issue in this discussion because that is not part of the rules that have been changed.

I think that even the Senator from Utah's language here suggests that he knows that about the rules that have been proposed by the Department of Defense.

But the reason we are on this floor again is that the Senator from Alabama has said he will never compromise, and there is nothing that can convince him to change his mind, that he will be out here as long as it takes.

And let's ask the question: What is he defending? What is he defending? His position is that we shouldn't pay a travel allowance for members of the armed services who are going from a

State that banned abortion to a State where they can get reproductive healthcare. He is against that, so he is holding up every single flag officer in the United States of America as a result of that—a tactic that has never been used in the history of the U.S. Senate in 230 years or more than that. That is what he is using because he is so offended that people can have their travel covered for this procedure.

He has never come here to object to the fact that people can get their travel covered for all kinds of medical procedures, even though none of those procedures are written into the underlying statute by the U.S. Congress because that is not our job. We delegate that to the Department of Defense.

So he is going to be out here, and he is going to fight this until there is no travel allowance for people who need to travel. They have to cover it on their own dime, just like they have to cover that reproductive surgery or abortion on their own dime, despite what the Senator from Alabama said. He is going to be out here until it all freezes over, until he ensures that—you just heard him say it—anybody who leaves has to take paid leave.

Let's be precise about it. Women who leave to travel to another State where an abortion is legal, under his scenario, will have to pay for that travel themselves even though we pay for that travel for all kinds of other things. He will be out here fighting this, making sure that not a single flag officer can ever be promoted in the Department of Defense, no matter who it is, no matter how important it is, until he is assured that women in the Defense Department are stripped of the ability to have a little bit of extra time to talk to their commanding officer when they are confronting one of the most difficult decisions anybody can make.

Those are the three rules that are at issue here—travel that is paid for, a little bit of extra time, and some paid leave.

Why are we having this debate? We are having this debate because for the first time in the history of the United States since Reconstruction, we have lost a fundamental freedom, we have lost a fundamental right, and that is the result of the Dobbs decision.

People come out here, and they are talking about a 40-year consensus on this or that. We had a 50-year consensus in this country about a woman's access to abortion. We had a 50-year consensus among the courts and among the American people about what a woman's right to choose looked like. And we had a 40-year campaign, year after year after year, to create a U.S. Supreme Court—a majority of whom subscribe to, in my opinion, the mythological legal doctrine of originalism—to strip the American people of that right, to strip the American people of that freedom, because if it wasn't a freedom in 1868, it is not a freedom today. That has dramatically upset the expectations of the American people, including those who serve in uniform.

Tragically, in my opinion—and this is one of those things where people can have fundamental moral disagreements and fundamental religious disagreements and fundamental positions that are totally different from one another, which I completely respect. I resolved these things in my own mind with the idea that this is a decision a woman should be left to make with her doctor. That is what I believe. But in the wake of this decision that was fought for for so long by so many politicians in America—50 years or more than 50 years—we have now lost that fundamental freedom. We have now lost that fundamental right. It is no longer a choice between a woman and her doctor.

In the wake of the Dobbs decision, there are 18 States that have now banned abortion—18 States. There are nine States—I just got a thumbs-up on the other side from the staff—there are nine States that have banned abortion without any exception for rape or incest.

The Senator from Alabama's State is a State that has banned abortion. It is a State where there is no exception for rape or incest. It is a State where, if you are a doctor and you have performed an abortion, you could go to jail for 99 years.

My State is totally different from that. My State is the first State in America, I think, that codified a woman's right to choose before Roe was even decided, in our State. In the aftermath of the Dobbs decision, we are the first State to say that we believe this should be a choice between a woman and her doctor.

We are going to fight that out in the country. A majority of people support the position that Colorado has taken. Fifty-five percent of the people in Alabama support the ability of women to be able to make this choice under some circumstances. Yet the Senator from Alabama has decided that his remedy can force his view of morality and of principle. His perspective is that he is going to do something that no Senator has done for 230 years, which is to hold up every flag officer's promotion in the Department of Defense.

Last week, seven former Secretaries of Defense, Republicans and Democrats, said that this block is "harming military readiness and risks damaging U.S. national security." I am not saying that. I am not saying that. Seven former Secretaries of Defense have said that.

Mr. President, I would ask unanimous consent that the letter be printed in the RECORD so everybody can see that it is both Republicans and Democrats who are saying that about the unprecedented hold being put here by the Senator from Alabama.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LETTER FROM SEVEN FORMER UNITED STATES SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE

MAY 4, 2023.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
Senate Majority Leader,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Senate Minority Leader,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR LEADER SCHUMER AND LEADER MCCONNELL: As former Secretaries of Defense, we strongly urge the Senate to act expeditiously on the nearly 200 nominees for general and flag officer who are being blocked from Senate confirmation.

The blanket hold on the promotion or reassignment of these senior uniformed leaders is harming military readiness and risks damaging U.S. national security. Because the Senate is required to confirm every general and flag officer for promotion or for reassignment, this practice has traditionally been a pro-forma exercise, except where there have been specific concerns about individual nominees, which were then handled separately.

The current hold that has been in place now for several weeks is preventing key leaders from assuming important, senior command and staff positions around the world. Some are unable to take important command positions, such as leading the 5th Fleet in Bahrain and the 7th Fleet in the Pacific, which are critical to checking Iranian and Chinese aggression, respectively. Others include the next military representative to NATO, a post essential to coordinating allied efforts in support of Ukraine, as well as the future Director of Intelligence at U.S. Cyber Command. Leaving these and many other senior positions in doubt at a time of enormous geopolitical uncertainty sends the wrong message to our adversaries and could weaken our deterrence.

Moreover, if this blanket hold is not lifted, nearly 80 three- and four-star commanders who are ending their terms in the coming months will not be able to be replaced. Worse, this will impact certain members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, including the Chairman of the JCS.

There are also real-world impacts on the families of these senior officers. Most cannot move and resettle their families; their children cannot enroll at their next schools on time; and spouses cannot start new jobs at the next duty station. We can think of few things as irresponsible and uncaring as harming the families of those who serve our nation in uniform.

We appreciate that Senators can have sincere and legitimate concerns about a Pentagon policy, including as it may relate to broader domestic or social issues. These lawmakers also deserve timely and thorough responses to their questions. However, we believe placing a hold on all uniformed nominees risks turning military officers into political pawns, holding them responsible for a policy decision made by their civilian leaders.

Rather, senators should leverage the numerous means available to them to challenge and change DOD policy, such as introducing legislation, conducting oversight hearings, or amending the annual National Defense Authorization Act.

We, therefore, strongly urge the Senate to ensure the continued readiness of the U.S. armed forces by lifting the blanket hold and promptly voting to confirm these uniformed nominees.

Sincerely,

Hon. WILLIAM J. PERRY,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.
Hon. WILLIAM S. COHEN,

Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Hon. ROBERT M. GATES,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Hon. LEON E. PANETTA,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Hon. CHUCK HAGEL,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Hon. JAMES N. MATTIS,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Hon. MARK T. ESPER,
Former U.S. Secretary
of Defense.

Mr. BENNET. I also want to say finally, and I will stop, that the rules the Department of Defense has had to put in place in the wake of the Dobbs decision stripping women of this fundamental freedom, stripping women of this fundamental right—these rules don't do what my colleagues are saying they are going to do.

Once again, it is a travel allowance. It says you can take paid leave. It says you can have a little bit more time to notify your commanding officer. That is all it is saying. My colleague from Alabama has unleashed the equivalent of this procedural nuclear weapon because that offends his principles, that offends his sense of what is right.

I am not here to debate with him his sense of what is right, but I do believe that it is right that people who are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, people who have enlisted to defend this country, who do not have the right to pick and choose which State they are going to be in and serve in, whether it is—of all people in this country, of all people in this country—I have heard people say—in fact, I even heard the Senator from Utah say this; I have read him saying this—that one of the great things about living in America is that you can move from State to State. That is one of the great things of our federalist system, is you can take advantage of the laws that are consistent with your values and get away from the ones that are not. That is not true for our men and women in the military.

This is one of the practical consequences that the Dobbs majority never grappled with because they applied their view of originalism to the fundamental—to the issues we are facing today as a country.

The very first call I got after that decision was made—almost the first call—was from a woman who had served as an officer in the Air Force who told me a personal story that she had been through. She said to me: Michael, they have no idea what the effect of readiness is going to be on our Armed Forces. They have no idea.

I don't think they would have ever believed that it would have been Members of the U.S. Senate who would have affected the readiness in the wake of Dobbs the way that it is being done tonight.

So I would ask respectfully for the Senator from Alabama to withdraw his

hold, to allow the Senate to move forward, as it has done for the last 230 years, to approve these candidates who have themselves signed up to serve and themselves done the work to get promoted. Let's have the argument that we need to have as a nation—that we need to have as a nation—about this fundamental freedom and about this fundamental right without holding our Department of Defense hostage.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I appreciate the thoughtful insight provided by my friend and colleague, the distinguished Senator from Colorado. In particular, I appreciate his acknowledgment that issues related to abortion really involve deep and profound areas of fundamental disagreement among and between Americans.

I also appreciate his acknowledgment that this really is about Dobbs; it really is about abortion. This didn't arise in a vacuum.

I also appreciate his reference to federalism. He knows me well, and he knows that I am a fan of federalism, this concept that there are 50 States that have united for common purposes related to our national defense; weights and measures; trademarks, copyrights, and patents; regulating trade or commerce between the States and with foreign nations and with Indian Tribes; and a handful of other purposes, but then we leave the rest of the governing to the States.

We come together in the same manner articulated by the Iroquois Indian Chief Canassatego from the Onondaga Tribe, who at a conference in Albany explained to early Americans the secret to the Iroquois Confederacy's longevity, to its peace, to its security. The Tribes came together. When they were united, they couldn't be broken, but each one maintained its independence.

A quiver of arrows bound together is almost impossible to break. One arrow by itself can be broken easily. It is that same vision—largely unheard of in the rest of the world—that helped create a uniquely American experiment in self-government. This has been the recipe to our success, to our longevity as a constitutional Republic, to our ability to exist as now 50 separate States with different opinions.

There are great consequences to moments when we take debatable matters—matters of profound and fundamental disagreement, as described by my colleague—and we place them beyond debate. This is precisely what happened some 50 years ago when the Supreme Court of the United States arrogated to itself at once the power of lawmaker and the power of constitutional draftsman. You see, what they did was they took away the power from the 50 respective States to decide these issues of profound and fundamental disagreement regarding the sanctity of life: when it begins, when unborn human life deserves protection of the law and when it does not.

Oh, yes, last year, the Supreme Court of the United States finally undid that usurpation of constitutional authority. They were acting as lawmakers. It was not their role. They were taking something Federal, relegated to the States. It wasn't theirs. Even if it were a Federal issue, it wouldn't be theirs to make law in this area because there is absolutely nothing in the Constitution of the United States that makes abortion something to be decided at the Federal level by nine lawyers wearing robes, sitting at the Supreme Court of the United States. Not one jot, not one tittle, not one syllable pertains to that. So the Supreme Court of the United States was right in making that decision.

I understand that my friend and distinguished colleague, the Senator from Colorado, disagrees with me on that front, as is his right. Importantly, however, this debate is not about that. This debate doesn't even deal with abortion. It doesn't deal with whether or under what circumstances the law should allow a woman to pursue an abortion. I have strong feelings about that that differ sharply from those of my friend and colleague from Colorado, but that is not what we are talking about here.

What we are talking about here is that the American people recognize that this is an issue that sharply divides Americans—an issue that my colleague describes as a matter of profound and fundamental disagreement. What does unite them is the idea that Federal taxpayer dollars shall not be used for abortions.

This is codified elsewhere, in the Hyde amendment, in the Mexico City policy. It is codified in matters particular to the Department of Defense in 10 U.S.C., section 1093. That is what we are dealing with here.

We can't make the mistake of accusing Senator TUBERVILLE of trying to impose his morality or his conception of under what circumstances a woman ought to be able to obtain an abortion. I believe Senator TUBERVILLE's views on that are similar to mine, but those are not at issue here. What is at issue here is whether taxpayer dollars from U.S. taxpayers ought to be spent in this area.

My colleague also suggested that this is somehow not different from what we do in other areas. There are all kinds of medical procedures for which members of the military can travel from one State to another in order to obtain those procedures. Understood. But those aren't the procedures at issue here.

This is specific to abortion. We are specifically creating measures for abortion—not for appendicitis, not to have bunions removed, not for other procedures. It is for abortion.

What you are doing here is to say we will pay your travel. We will give you a per diem. We will give you 3 weeks of paid leave time. You don't have to use

your accumulated leave time in order to do that.

That is unique to abortion. That means they are paying for abortion.

So, no, I am not willing to concede, and I have not conceded, that the law has no application here. I believe it violates the spirit—if not also the letter—of the law. It certainly violates the spirit but, inarguably, the letter.

When there is a Federal law that says you may not use this for abortion, if you use it for things that are entirely around abortion—we will pay for your travel out of State to get the abortion; we will give you additional leave time with an attached value to it; we will give you per diem while you seek that abortion—that is about abortion.

Imagine a young college student—a young college student who has something that every college student probably wishes they had, a rich uncle. Imagine there is a college student. We will call him Bill. Bill has got a rich uncle. We will call him Thurston—Thurston Howell III. Thurston Howell III has got an enormous amount of money—more money than he knows what to do with. He is what you might call a gazillionaire. He says to his nephew Bill: Bill, I don't have any kids. You are the only one who is going to be able to carry on the family name. You are attending my alma mater, and I want you to live in style. I want you to enjoy life. I am going to pay for your tuition. I am going to pay for your room and board. In fact, not just your housing, I am going to buy you a house located close to the campus where you can live in style. I will get you a car, pay your healthcare expenses, and everything. I am going to do all of this for the rest of the time you are in college.

Bill, you see, is in his first semester, about to wrap up the first semester. So he is excited about all he is about to gain.

But his uncle, Thurston Howell III, imposes one restriction on those funds. He says: Now, I know that you have pledged with and are now a member of the Sigma Beta Fraternity. And the Sigma Betas at this university are known for one thing. They are infamous. Everybody knows they throw really big, exciting keg parties, drunken frat parties. They love those things.

So Mr. Howell says to his nephew, Bill: Look, as a Sigma Beta, you are going to do what you are going to do. That is your decision. I am not going to tell you that you can't drink while receiving money. But I am going to say this: You may not use my money for your drunken frat parties. And, by the way, I want you to submit quarterly receipts to me so I can review what you are doing.

Well, the first quarter of the next semester goes by, and Thurston Howell III is reviewing Bill's receipts. He is aware that some huge keg parties have been thrown. He has heard that the latest of them happened to be carried out in the house that he bought for his

nephew Bill and that there was a lot of alcohol served there, just as there is at every Sigma Beta party. Then he sees in the receipts—receipt after receipt—one for invitations, one for streamers, one for various forms of video entertainment that they had set up there, a big expense for a lot of red cups, and even an expense line for ping-pong balls, you know, for beer pong.

He goes to Bill, and he says: What have you done? I have asked you not to use this for your drunken frat parties. I don't want to be paying for your alcohol-filled ragers.

Bill says back to him: Well, no, every other member of the fraternity paid for the alcohol. I just paid for the invitations and the streamers and the red cups and the ping-pong balls and the video entertainment system and the DJ.

I don't think Thurston Howell III would be all that convinced that Bill hadn't violated the terms of the support agreement.

Now, sure, Bill could argue with him all along. He could say: No, you are wrong, Uncle Thurston.

It doesn't make Uncle Thurston any more inclined to go out of his way to continue to provide that funding. If anything, what we are dealing with here is far clearer than the restriction placed on Bill in my hypothetical.

Congress has said unequivocally: We are not going to use Department of Defense funds, we are not going to use Department of Defense facilities for abortions.

That is what the Department of Defense has done. It is a policy change, and a policy change that my friend from Colorado has acknowledged is a policy change. He believes it is justified somehow by the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs*. He is welcome to that opinion, but it is not accurate.

There is no clause in there that says that there is an exception if the Supreme Court changes its jurisprudence with regard to *Roe v. Wade*, *Casey v. Planned Parenthood*, and their progeny. Not a jot, not a tittle, not a scintilla supports that.

So, now, unhappy that some of these nominees aren't moving, Secretary Austin sends his emissaries, sends his friends in the Senate to go and attack Senator TUBERVILLE. Why? Because Senator TUBERVILLE is standing up for what the law says.

He is not trying to impose his morality on women in the military—far from it. He is just trying to impose the law, to make sure the law is followed, and that when the law is not followed, he is not going to help the Department of Defense move things any faster. That is well within his right to do, and I applaud him for it. We need more of that very kind of courage in the U.S. Senate.

As the Supreme Court has learned—as we have all learned from that experience—we don't end these profound and fundamental disagreements by taking debatable matters beyond de-

bate. That is what the Supreme Court tried in *Roe v. Wade*, and it failed, especially because it was untethered from the Constitution and fundamentally at odds with it.

This effort here to rewrite the law from the E-Ring of the Pentagon will fare no better.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, the hour is late, and I am conscious that we are supposed to get off the floor. I know the staff needs to go home. So I won't belabor this.

I will say that I will put to one side, and I am sure that my colleague, my friend from Utah, would agree, that we are not talking here about a drunken frat party and the fortunes or misfortunes of an ungrateful student and their rich uncle. We are talking about people that, in real life, are having to make decisions that are the most fundamental decisions that any individual can make.

They have had 50 years' worth of expectations about what those decisions are going to look like, and those expectations have been completely upset by the Supreme Court, first, when this originalist majority ruled that if it wasn't a freedom in 1868, it is not a freedom today. It is something that, when I was in law school, I never imagined that I would ever have read out of a Supreme Court opinion, certainly not on something of this magnitude.

But then in the wake of it, 18 States banned abortion. In the wake of it, nine States banned abortion without exceptions for rape or incest. In the wake of it, in Alabama, they are saying that if doctors use chemicals for abortion, they can be prosecuted with a statute that was written to attack fentanyl or methamphetamines. And in the wake of it, Members of the U.S. Senate come to this floor and use a procedure that has never been used before in the history of America to hold up every single flag promotion just to make sure they can make it harder for somebody who is facing the most difficult decision that they can ever make; to make it harder for them to decide when they are going to talk to their superior officer; to make it harder for them to travel somewhere where, yes, they have to pay for that abortion out of their pocket; to ensure that you have to use paid leave to do it; that that is such an injustice that we are going to come out here and hold up every flag officer's promotion.

Some people, after this ruling—I never heard the Senator from Utah say this, and I am not ascribing this to him. But there were people after that ruling who said: Don't worry about this. You don't have to worry about this. This is just States' rights. It is the laboratory of the States. It is going back to the States.

And 18 States have banned abortion, and many of those States are States where people in the armed services serve. They have no choice over where they serve.

I am not the originalist on this floor tonight, but I can read the plain language of those regulations, and I could see from that plain language that there is nothing in there that pays for abortion.

There was no objection out here on this floor when somebody at the Defense Department put in procedures, as the Senator from Utah says, for appendicitis or for bunions or for whatever is on his list. There was no objection. There was nobody coming here to the floor indignantly saying that their rights as a Senator had been somehow stripped as a result of that rule-making—far from it, because people recognized that in order for the Department of Defense to function just like any other administrative Agency, they have to be able to make decisions based on delegated powers from the U.S. Congress. And in the face of what has happened with the *Dobbs* decision, the Defense Department is trying to get to a place where there is a reasonable outcome for people who have to make this decision.

I think there is a lot of benefit to federalism, but one of those benefits ought to be that, if you are serving in the Department of Defense and the Department of Defense assigns you, as is the Department of Defense's right, without your permission or without your say-so, without your OK, that it is reasonable for the Department of Defense to notice when you are living in a State that has banned abortion with no exceptions for rape or incest. It is reasonable for the Department of Defense to notice that you are living in a State where, if you are a doctor and you performed an abortion, you could go to jail for 99 years or, if you are living in the "Republic" of Texas, where they have actually put a bounty of \$10,000 or \$20,000 so that, if a neighbor or a friend turns you in for pursuing reproductive healthcare—an abortion—you can get that money because you let somebody know that you have done that.

I mean, I admit this has all changed because of *Dobbs*, and now we are trying to grapple with that. We are all trying to grapple with that, and we all have differences of opinion about that.

But I think what we are saying is, don't make a difficult situation even harder for the people who have signed up, volunteered to be at the Department of Defense; don't create more uncertainty at the Department of Defense by holding up these flag promotions just to get your point of view, just to be able to make sure that it is harder, not easier, for people to access reproductive healthcare.

And I think that is why, when the Senator from Alabama says that nothing is going to convince him, that he is going to be doing this as long as it takes, I am really worried that that is going to take forever because the majority, certainly, of the American people are not going to agree that we should make it harder for people who are in this position.

And by the way, just on the other point about what the Federal law actually says here: We voted, I think, the other day, if I am not wrong, on a CRA—or whatever those administrative things are around here—because the Senator from Alabama was angry that the VA had changed the exceptions for providing abortion from just the life of the mother to situations where there is rape or incest. He was so angry at that, he came out here to address that.

So don't think this isn't about that subject, that this isn't about a woman's right to choose. That is exactly—that is why these guys are out here. I am not saying the Senator from Utah. That is why this objection has been made.

So I think the American people need to understand—I hope they understand—who is standing up here on this floor tonight for a woman's right to choose, for that fundamental constitutional and human right, and who is opposing. And I know that there are significant disagreements, as I said earlier, in our country about those two issues.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, there are myriad ways in which concerns of those serving in the military, concerns of dependents of those serving in the military, could be accommodated in a way that doesn't violate the letter, if not—or at least the spirit of the law. Among other things, the military, if it wanted to, could, without offending this provision of law or any provision of law that I am aware of, give military personnel some say in where they live.

If there is some State that, for one reason or another, whether related to this issue or another, is offensive to them; if it would, in their judgment, impair their health or otherwise be objectionable to them—perhaps just be objectionable to them on this basis—the military could, without implicating this or any other statute of which I am aware, give them some say in it, give them the ability to say “I don't want to serve there; I would like to be transferred somewhere else.” That wouldn't involve Federal funds funding or at least facilitating abortion.

So the fact that we have different States with different laws and the fact that those laws may impact people differently depending on where they happen to be living, where they happen to be serving at the time, doesn't mean that the only answer is for the Department of Defense to ignore 10 U.S.C. 1093 and pretend that nothing has changed and pretend that nothing has changed relative to its relationship to Congress.

Now, as to Senator TUBERVILLE, let's remember, he went to the Department of Defense. If I am not mistaken, he went to the Secretary of Defense himself. He outlined his concerns because there have been rumors circulating about this policy for months.

Senator TUBERVILLE, remember, is a member of the Armed Services Committee. The Senate Armed Services Committee has an oversight role—an important one—over the Department of Defense. It was his right, it was his duty to know what was going on in the Department of Defense. He inquired again and again and again, and they wouldn't tell him.

Finally, he got an audience with the Secretary of Defense and informed him, as I understand the conversation, of the fact that there would be dire consequences, including this one, if he chose to proceed. The Secretary of Defense considered that risk, and he undertook it nonetheless. He stood before the law and the wishes of a U.S. Senator and the promise of a U.S. Senator that this would be the consequence, and he did it anyway.

I can't speak to why he chose to do that, but it was, in fact, his choice; it was, in fact, his decision.

So, now, as to the suggestion that there are other procedures for which people can travel interstate and that we haven't raised objections with regard to those, those aren't covered by this policy. This one is about abortion. This one is there to say: If you want to get an abortion, then you get the 3 weeks of extra leave, paid leave; then you get the per diem; then you get the reimbursed travel. You get all of that if you are getting an abortion.

That is not there for anything else. It is not there for the treatment of other medical conditions that are common—strep throat treatment that happens to be unavailable in one area or another or—I don't know—schistosomiasis. I don't know what that is, but I heard the term on “M.A.S.H.” once. It is a real dire medical condition. Maybe you are serving in one State, and they can't treat that in one State because of that State's quirky laws. This policy doesn't offer any relief on that, no.

This applies specifically to abortion, implicating the concerns of the American people—legitimate concerns, I would add—over the use of Federal funds for that purpose. That unites Americans more than perhaps any other, and with a lot of good reason.

They are telling these military women: We are so supportive of this particular thing that we are going to pay for your travel; we are going to reimburse everything; we are going to give you a per diem and give you 3 weeks of paid leave.

I do wonder sometimes how one would feel, as a woman serving in the military, being told that. What if you are a woman who may become pregnant who wants to become pregnant? Does this create the kind of hostile environment in which a woman wanting to serve in the military and wanting to have children feels that the Department of Defense is so, so resistant to childbearing among its female service-members that it is willing to pay out a lot of money to do that?

In any event, this is not something that one can easily reconcile with the

policy embodied in 10 U.S.C. section 1093. That can be changed. There is nothing etched into the Constitution about that. Congress could change it. But to do that, you would have to have the votes. To have the votes, you would have to have some sort of legislative effort to do that. There hasn't been one here.

Why? Well, because it is a lot easier to just decree it, just pen a memo and issue the memo, saying: We are going to make it so. We are going to ignore it.

As to the suggestion that this is not something that can be compared to a drunken frat party, well, fair point; it cannot. No, it is much more serious than that. The American people don't feel so passionately about a drunken frat party that they have put in place a Federal law saying that the Department of Defense may never use funds to hold certain kinds of parties, including those involving alcohol.

This involves unborn human life. Now, I understand that not everybody approaches unborn human life and its sanctity and the degree to which it should be protected under law the same way, but that is exactly why this policy exists, and that is exactly why the policy is embodied in a Federal statute. This stands squarely in the face of that, and it disregards it.

Senator TUBERVILLE has every right and every reason to stand up for this.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I hope we will bring this to a close, but I would first of all say that—stating the obvious—neither the Senator from Utah nor I are a woman, and I am not going to suggest that I know how people who are women in the military necessarily feel about this.

I suspect, far less often than the person whom the Senator from Utah is concerned about, which is somebody who feels like they are somehow discriminated against because they are going to carry a child to term versus somebody who is going to face this really hard, hard, hard choice, that a much more likely feeling and sense of harm will be the complete loss of any sense of privacy that they are going to have as a result of Dobbs and the effect of Dobbs and the effect of what these people are arguing tonight on the floor of the Senate about: making it harder to travel; about saying that, no, you can't have more time to talk to your commanding officer about a decision that you have to make; no, the entire unit is going to know what it is that you are going to have to confront because, unlike every other medical procedure that we are dealing with, when it is abortion, then everybody is going to know, and your right to privacy has been eviscerated.

I guarantee you, for every single person who feels the way that the Senator from Utah suggests that some people feel, like somehow they are being discriminated against because they are

not in the position to have to deal with the most difficult decision that anybody could make, that the number of people who are concerned about what this has done to the right to privacy—and this not just in the Department of Defense but in our country—is far greater, is far greater.

And I would also just say that if States' rights were of such paramount importance, that there wouldn't be people in this country right now trying to make it illegal for States to allow people to use chemicals to perform abortions, even though that is how a majority of abortions in this country are performed.

And I don't agree with the Senator from Utah that we should have a military where I can just decide, as an individual, that I am not going to serve in a State because the laws of that State are ones that I don't agree to or I don't subscribe to or I morally disagree with. That is not how the military is supposed to work.

I would argue that is a lot more important than what the Constitution has to say about weights and measures.

I suspect there is also a reason why no Senator in the history of America, on any issue of profound importance, as this issue is, has held hostage every single flag officer promotion of the Department of Defense.

I suspect there is a reason why that has never happened before—because we know the damage this is doing, and we know that sometimes, once you put yourself into a cul-de-sac, it is really, really hard to get out of it, especially when the majority of the American people don't agree with you on the substance and don't agree with your tactic. But that is where we are tonight.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, the argument made by my friend and my distinguished colleague from Colorado resonates with me. He doesn't want this to be treated "unlike every other medical procedure." I couldn't agree more. That is all Senator TUBERVILLE is suggesting. It shouldn't be treated any differently than the others, because other medical procedures—you don't get 3 weeks of paid leave; you don't get per diem; you don't get your airfare and whatever else paid for. Just treat it the same way. It is not just that it is a good idea; it is not just that it is fair; it is that it is also consistent with Federal law, which says we don't use Federal funds for abortions. We just don't do that.

So here, not only are we doing the opposite of what he said he wanted, which is to not have abortions treated unlike every other medical procedure, but we are using Federal funds to do it. I find that difficult to reconcile with the law and with the policy embodied in that law.

As to the suggestion of States' rights, I want to be very clear here. Speaking of federalism—I don't speak

of this ever as States' rights. States don't have rights. States have power. They have authority. Rights are the opposite of power and authority. Rights are things that you invoke against authority, as a carve-out to that authority.

So with regard to federalism, there is no reason why someone serving in the military couldn't be given some sort of preference not to serve in a particular State, whether because of a moral objection to a State's policy or a practical medical objection. That would be an entirely permissible way, as far as I am concerned, for the Department of Defense to deal with the issue raised by the Senator from Colorado. But what they can't do is find a way sneakily to use Federal funds—Department of Defense funds—in order to bring about these abortions.

Look, it is not Senator TUBERVILLE who brought us here. Senator TUBERVILLE didn't bring us to this moment. This was a conscious, deliberate choice made by the Department of Defense, made by the Secretary of Defense, and it was an unwise one, and I am proud to stand behind him in that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. I wrap just by saying this: I think that the choice that has been made is a practical choice that has been made in the wake of a fundamental freedom and a fundamental right being stripped from the American people, and we are not going to solve that disagreement tonight.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD names of people and the positions of these ranking officers who are not going to be promoted all around the world as a result of what the Senator from Alabama has done. That is why we are here tonight.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. We can confirm every one of those folks tonight, right now.

Mr. BENNET. Let's do it.

Mr. LEE. Do it right now. If the Department of Defense takes it off the table and says they will suspend it until such time as the Senate can debate, discuss it, and bring about the necessary change to Federal law, I will agree to that right now, and we will get them confirmed tonight.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I would ask my colleague, addressing the Senator from Utah through the Chair, where in the rules there is language that says the Department of Defense will pay for an abortion. Where is it? Because it is not in the plain text, you know, and that is the basis for this objection. That is the basis for the moral objection, if there is one, and that is the basis for the offense that the Senators have taken from the idea that the Department of Defense would steal from the Senate the ability to make these judgments on their own. I can't find anything in the plain text that

says it. We checked—my office has checked again, as we have every night that I have been out here—and are assured that if a servicemember goes to another State to seek abortion services, that abortion is not paid for by the Department of Defense or by the Federal Government.

So I would ask again the Senator from Utah to show us—he can do it off the floor—where the language is that is in these rules that explicitly says that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, the statute prohibits the use of Federal funds to pay for an abortion—can't possibly be interpreted as having nothing to say about paying most of the cost associated with an abortion. By the time you pay someone to travel, by the time you pay someone to travel interstate, you give them 3 weeks of compensated leave, you give them per diem, most of the cost associated with that abortion has then been paid by the Federal Government.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. I appreciate the gloss that the Senator from Utah has put on the plain language of this statute, which clearly does not allow—if it did, he would have shown us that language.

I wish that Justice Alito and the other members of the Supreme Court who applied the originalist view that determined that because it doesn't say a woman's right to choose in the Constitution, there must not be such a fundamental right—I wish they had used the sort of statutory interpretation my colleague from Utah has chosen this evening. Similarly, with the approach to federalism, you know, it all depends on what the underlying issue happens to be.

With that, I yield the floor.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MILITARY NOMINATIONS

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 46—Col. Leigh A. Swanson to be Brigadier General

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 47—Maj. Gen. Sean A. Gainey to be Lieutenant General

Exec. Cal. No. 48—Maj. Gen. Heidi J. Hoyle to be Lieutenant General

Exec. Cal. No. 49—Brig. Gen. Laurence S. Linton to be Major General

Exec. Cal. No. 50—Brig. Gen. Stacy M. Babcock to be Major General and Col. Peggy R. McManus to be Brigadier General

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 51—Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Gebara to be Lieutenant General

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 52—Maj. Gen. Robert M. Collins to be Lieutenant General

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 82—to be Brigadier Col. David J. Berkland; Col. Amy S. Bumgarner; Col. Ivory D. Carter; Col. Raja J. Chari; Col. Jason E. Corrothers; Col. John B. Creel; Col. Nicholas B. Evans; Col. Bridget V. Gigliotti; Col. Christopher B. Hammond; Col. Leslie F. Hauck, III; Col. Kurt C. Helphinstine; Col.

Abraham L. Jackson; Col. Benjamin R. Jonsson; Col. Joy M. Kaczor; Col. Christopher J. Leonard; Col. Christopher E. Menuet; Col. David S. Miller; Col. Jeffrey A. Phillips; Col. Erik N. Quigley; Col. Michael S. Rowe; Col. Derek M. Salmi; Col. Kayle M. Stevens; Col. Jose E. Sumangil; Col. Terence G. Taylor; Col. Jason D. Voorheis; Col. Michael O. Walters; Col. Adrienne L. Williams

Exec. Cal. No. 83—Col. Corey A. Simmons to be to be Brigadier General

IN THE NAVY

Exec. Cal. No. 84—Rear Adm. George M. Wikoff to be Vice Admiral

Exec. Cal. No. 85—Rear Adm. Frederick W. Kacher to be Vice Admiral

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 47—to be Brigadier General: Col. Sean M. Carpenter; Col. Mary K. Haddad; Col. James L. Hartle; Col. Aaron J. Heick; Col. Joseph D. Janik; Col. Michael T. McGinley; Col. Kevin J. Merrill; Col. Tara E. Nolan; Col. Roderick C. Owens; Col. Mark D. Richey; Col. Norman B. Shaw, Jr.

Exec. Cal. No. 87—to be Brigadier General: Col. Kristin A. Hillery; Col. Michelle L. Wagner

Exec. Cal. No. 88—to be Major General: Brig. Gen. Elizabeth E. Arledge; Brig. Gen. Robert M. Blake; Brig. Gen. Vanessa J. Dornoefer; Brig. Gen. Christopher A. Freeman; Brig. Gen. David P. Garfield; Brig. Gen. Mitchell A. Hanson; Brig. Gen. Jody A. Merritt; Brig. Gen. Adrian K. White; Brig. Gen. William W. Whittenberger, Jr.; Brig. Gen. Christopher F. Yancy

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 89—Col. Carlos M. Caceres to be Brigadier General

IN THE NAVY

Exec. Cal. No. 90—Rear Adm. Shoshana S. Chatfield—to be Vice Admiral

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 91—Col. William F. Wilkerson to be Brigadier General

Exec. Cal. No. 92—Col. Evelyn E. Laptook to be Brigadier General

Exec. Cal. No. 93—Brig. Gen. Ronald R. Ragin to be Major General

Exec. Cal. No. 94—to be Brigadier General: Col. Brandon C. Anderson; Col. Beth A. Behn; Col. Matthew W. Brame; Col. Kenneth J. Burgess; Col. Thomas E. Burke; Col. Chad C. Chalfont; Col. Kendall J. Clarke; Col. Patrick M. Costello; Col. Rory A. Crooks; Col. Troy M. Denomy; Col. Sara E. Dudley; Col. Joseph E. Escandon; Col. Alric L. Francis; Col. George C. Hackler; Col. William C. Hannan, Jr.; Col. Peter G. Hart; Col. Gregory L. Holden; Col. Paul D. Howard; Col. James G. Kent; Col. Curtis W. King; Col. John P. Lloyd; Col. Shannon M. Lucas; Col. Landis C. Maddox; Col. Kareem P. Montague; Col. John B. Mountford; Col. David C. Phillips; Col. Kenneth N. Reed; Col. John W. Sannes; Col. Andrew O. Saslav; Col. Charlone E. Stallworth; Col. Jennifer S. Walkawicz; Col. Camilla A. White; Col. Scott D. Wilkinson; Col. Jeremy S. Wilson; Col. Scott C. Woodward; Col. Joseph W. Wortham, II; Col. David J. Zinn

IN THE MARINE CORPS

Exec. Cal. No. 95—to be Brigadier General: Col. David R. Everly; Col. Kelvin W. Gallman; Col. Adolfo Garcia, Jr.; Col. Matthew T. Good; Col. Trevor Hall; Col. Richard D. Joyce; Col. Omar J. Randall; Col. Robert S. Weiler

IN THE NAVY

Exec. Cal. No. 96—to be Rear Admiral (lower half): Capt. Walter D. Brafford; Capt. Robert J. Hawkins

Exec. Cal. No. 97—to be Rear Admiral (lower half): Capt. Amy N. Bauernschmidt;

Capt. Michael B. Devore; Capt. Thomas A. Donovan; Capt. Frederic C. Goldhammer; Capt. Ian L. Johnson; Capt. Neil A. Koprowski; Capt. Paul J. Lanzilotta; Capt. Joshua Lasky; Capt. Donald W. Marks; Capt. Craig T. Mattingly; Capt. Andrew T. Miller; Capt. Lincoln M. Reifsteck; Capt. Frank A. Rhodes, IV; Capt. Thomas E. Shultz; Capt. Todd E. Whalen; Capt. Forrest O. Young

Exec. Cal. No. 98—to be Rear Admiral (lower half): Capt. Brian J. Anderson; Capt. Julie M. Treanor

Exec. Cal. No. 99—to be Rear Admiral: Rear Adm. (lh) Casey J. Moton; Rear Adm. (lh) Stephen R. Tedford

Exec. Cal. No. 100—Rear Adm. (lh) Rick Freedman to be Rear Admiral

Exec. Cal. No. 101—Rear Adm. (lh) Kenneth W. Epps to be Rear Admiral

Exec. Cal. No. 102—to be Rear Admiral: Rear Adm. (lh) Stephen D. Barnett; Rear Adm. (lh) Michael W. Baze; Rear Adm. (lh) Richard T. Brophy, Jr.; Rear Adm. (lh) Joseph F. Cahill, III; Rear Adm. (lh) Brian L. Davies; Rear Adm. (lh) Michael P. Donnelly; Rear Adm. (lh) Daniel P. Martin; Rear Adm. (lh) Richard E. Seif, Jr.; Rear Adm. (lh) Paul C. Spedero, Jr.; Rear Adm. (lh) Derek A. Trinque; Rear Adm. (lh) Dennis Velez; Rear Adm. (lh) Darryl L. Walker; Rear Adm. (lh) Jeremy B. Williams

Exec. Cal. No. 103—Capt. Frank G. Schlereth, II to be Rear Admiral (lower half)

Exec. Cal. No. 104—to be Rear Admiral (lower half): Capt. Joshua C. Himes; Capt. Kurtis A. Mole

Exec. Cal. No. 105—to be Rear Admiral (lower half): Capt. Thomas J. Dickinson; Capt. Kevin R. Smith; Capt. Todd S. Weeks; Capt. Dianna Wolfson

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 106—to be Major General: Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Harrell; Brig. Gen. Jeannine M. Ryder

IN THE MARINE CORPS

Exec. Cal. No. 107—Lt. Gen. James W. Bierman, Jr. to be Lieutenant General

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 110—to be Major General: Brig. Gen. Curtis R. Bass; Brig. Gen. Kenyon K. Bell; Brig. Gen. Charles D. Bolton; Brig. Gen. Larry R. Broadwell, Jr.; Brig. Gen. Scott A. Cain; Brig. Gen. Sean M. Choquette; Brig. Gen. Roy W. Collins; Brig. Gen. John R. Edwards; Brig. Gen. Jason T. Hinds; Brig. Gen. Justin R. Hoffman; Brig. Gen. Stacy J. Huser; Brig. Gen. Matteo G. Martemucci; Brig. Gen. David A. Mineau; Brig. Gen. Paul D. Moga; Brig. Gen. Ty W. Neuman; Brig. Gen. Christopher J. Niemi; Brig. Gen. Brandon D. Parker; Brig. Gen. Michael T. Rawls; Brig. Gen. Patrick S. Ryder; Brig. Gen. David G. Shoemaker; Brig. Gen. Rebecca J. Sonkiss; Brig. Gen. Claude K. Tudor, Jr.; Brig. Gen. Dale R. White

IN THE MARINE CORPS

Exec. Cal. No. 111—Maj. Gen. Bradford J. Gering to be Lieutenant General

Exec. Cal. No. 112—Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Masiello to be Lieutenant General

Exec. Cal. No. 113—Rear Adm. James P. Downey to be Vice Admiral

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 130—Maj. Gen. John W. Brennan, Jr. to be Lieutenant General

IN THE NAVY

Exec. Cal. No. 131—Vice Adm. Karl O. Thomas to be Vice Admiral

IN THE MARINE CORPS

Exec. Cal. No. 132—Lt. Gen. Michael S. Cederholm to be Lieutenant General

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 133—Brig. Gen. Derin S. Durham to be Major General

IN THE ARMY

Exec. Cal. No. 134—to be Brigadier General: Col. Brandi B. Peasley; Col. John D. Rhodes; Col. Earl C. Sparks, IV

Exec. Cal. No. 135—Brig. Gen. William Green, Jr. to be Major General

Exec. Cal. No. 136—Maj. Gen. Mark T. Simerly to be Lieutenant General

IN THE MARINE CORPS

Exec. Cal. No. 137—Maj. Gen. Ryan P. Heritage to be Lieutenant General

IN THE NAVY

Exec. Cal. No. 138—Vice Adm. Craig A. Clapperton to be Vice Admiral

IN THE AIR FORCE

Exec. Cal. No. 139—Col. Brian R. Moore to be Brigadier General

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the sacrifices and dedication of our Nation's law enforcement personnel. I am proud to cosponsor the resolution offered by Senators DURBIN and GRAHAM recognizing May 14 through May 20 as National Police Week. This bipartisan resolution recognizes the critical role that law enforcement officers play in keeping our neighborhoods and communities safe. It also calls attention to the importance of ensuring enforcement officers have the equipment, training, and resources necessary to perform their duties. Finally, the resolution pays tribute to fallen law enforcement officers, including three Marylanders whom I would like to recognize in particular. These names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, located in Judiciary Square near Capitol Hill.

Deputy First Class Kenneth "Kenny" Olander served the Sheriff's Office of Frederick County, MD, for 32 years. He worked as a patrol operations deputy, school resource officer, and most recently as a community deputy. He had previously served in the Army for 6 years and worked as a military police officer. He passed away in March of 2022 after contracting COVID-19 in the line of duty. He is survived by his wife and three children.

Corporal Gregory Bednarek served with the Maryland Transportation Authority Police for 19 years. A lifelong Marylander, Gregory was born in Baltimore and attended the University of Maryland, College Park. He died from complications as the result of contracting COVID-19 in the line of duty.

He is survived by his wife, stepdaughter, stepson, parents, sister, two nephews, and niece.

Wicomico County Deputy First Class Glenn Hilliard had served with the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office for 6 years and had previously served with the Berlin Police Department for 10 years. He was shot and killed in July of 2022 while attempting to arrest a man wanted on multiple felony warrants. Hilliard had bravely pursued the suspect on foot as he attempted to flee. He is survived by his wife and three children.

The sacrifices of these Marylanders will not be forgotten, nor will their decades of faithful service to keeping their communities safe. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families left behind.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, this week our Nation commemorates the 2023 National Police Week and honors the brave men and women of law enforcement who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. As a nation, we will pay tribute to those who have given their lives to protect our communities and join in mourning their loss with their families and loved ones.

As we recognize National Police Week and remember these fallen officers, we must acknowledge the critical role that law enforcement officers play in keeping our communities safe. They leave their homes and families every day not knowing if they will return. The amount of courage, dedication, and passion that demands cannot be overstated. It is important to remember, too, that their families also demonstrate exceptional courage, as they support their loved ones knowing the circumstances are sometimes life and death.

My State of Mississippi is blessed with amazing law enforcement. These men and women in blue are not only hometown heroes, but also are an integral part of our communities. Every loss of an officer is deeply felt by all. I would like to specifically remember and honor the nine fallen officers from Mississippi whose names have been added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this year. These officers died heroes in service to their communities, and we will forever be grateful for their sacrifice.

We remember: Steven Michael Robin and Branden Paul Estorffe of the Bay St. Louis Police Department, who were shot and killed while conducting a welfare check, and Marzell Jerome Brooks of the Brookhaven Police Department, who passed from COVID-19 during the commission of his job duties.

We remember: Myiesha Breanna Stewart of the Greenville Police Department, who was shot and killed during a vehicle pursuit of a suspect who fled the scene after a shooting; Lee Dan Vance, Jr., of the Hinds County Sher-

iff's Office who died after contracting COVID-19 during an outbreak among employees and inmates; and Robert Edward Moak, Sr., of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, who was killed by a suspect who he had testified against in court.

We remember: Kennis Winston Croom of the Meridian Police Department, who was shot and killed while responding to a domestic violence call, and Jeffrey Ray Turney of the Pontotoc Police Department, who succumbed to COVID-19 after contracting the illness during the commission of his job duties.

Lastly, we remember Johnny Raymond Patterson of the Verona Police Department, who was struck by a vehicle while directing traffic.

To honor their memory, we must put our words into actions by ensuring our officers have the resources and tools they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. It is critical they have adequate support for training, equipment, and technology, as well as policies that prioritize officer safety and well-being.

For my part, I will continue to be an advocate for law enforcement professionals and provide support where possible and do all I can to honor the legacy of those lost in the line of duty.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and honoring these brave officers in Mississippi and across the Nation during National Police Week and throughout the year. It is my prayer that their families and loved ones find comfort in knowing that their sacrifices will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE ECKSTEIN

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the exceptional life of Lawrence Eckstein, on the occasion of his 99th birthday.

Mr. Eckstein was born on June 30, 1924, in Wisconsin. He attended Winneconne High School before heading into the workforce at age 14. At age 20, Mr. Eckstein entered the U.S. Army and served as a private in both the 85th Infantry Division and 10th Mt. Division from 1944 through 1947. During his time in the U.S. Army, he was stationed throughout Italy and Austria. He was a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal and received a Quilt of Valor in 2022.

In 1952, Mr. Eckstein married his wife Darlene. Together, they raised six children and celebrated 61 years of marriage before her passing in 2013. After the military, Mr. Eckstein worked within the Kimberly-Clark Corporation for 26 years. Retirement didn't stop Mr. Eckstein from keeping busy. He drove semi-trucks up until the age of 86 and often could be seen riding his bike on the Wiouwash trail in Winneconne up until the age of 95.

Mr. Eckstein is also incredibly active with the Winneconne Legion, marching in local parades up until the age of 91. He also had the opportunity to go on the Old Glory Honor Flight back in 2012.

I am privileged to acknowledge the life and work of Lawrence Eckstein, and on the occasion of his 99th birthday, I wish him a happy birthday and thank him for his lifetime of service to our country.

HONORING SEAMAN SECOND CLASS DAVID JOSEPH RILEY

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of S2C David Joseph Riley who lost his life, along with 428 of his fellow crewmen, on December 7, 1941, while serving on the USS *Oklahoma* during the attack on Pearl Harbor. After over 80 years, S2C Riley's remains will finally come to Juda in Green County, WI, on May 27, 2023.

Seaman Second Class Riley was born on February 18, 1916, and at the age of 11 years old became the foster son of Elmer and Della (Matzke) Asmus of Juda, WI. He attended the Juda elementary and high schools and was known for his cheerful and likable manner. In 1939, he joined the Wisconsin National Guard, and in May 1940, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After training, he was assigned to the battleship USS *Oklahoma*.

On December 7, 1941, Seaman Second Class Riley was onboard the USS *Oklahoma*, docked at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when it was attacked by Japanese forces. This ship was hit by multiple torpedoes, causing it to quickly flip and capsize.

On December 21, 1941, Mr. and Mrs. Asmus received a telegram from the Navy, stating that Seaman Second Class Riley was missing. On February 17, 1942, 1 day before what would have been his 26th birthday, they received another telegram declaring that Seaman Second Class Riley had lost his life in service of his country. Unfortunately, his remains could not be identified at this time. Eventually, the remains of the men lost aboard the *Oklahoma* were recovered and buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific—NMCP—and listed as "Unknowns."

The loss of Seaman Second Class Riley was devastating to the tight-knit community of Green County, and over 80 years later, his legacy is still known and honored. The American Legion Post 84 in Monroe is the Zilmer-Riley post, named in part for Seaman Second Class Riley. A plaque in Juda High School commemorates the sacrifice made by Seaman Second Class Riley and two other men from Juda during World War II.

In 2015, the Department of Defense authorized the exhumation of the USS *Oklahoma* "Unknowns," interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, NMCP. Seaman Second Class Riley's remains were exhumed and identified through the painstaking efforts of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency—DPAA—the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory—AFDIL—and the Navy Casualty POW-MIA Branch.

Deborah Krauss Smith, great-grand-niece of Seaman Second Class Riley's foster parents, worked diligently to gain approval from the Navy Casualty POW/MIA branch to return Seaman Second Class Riley's remains to Juda, where they will be interred with those of his foster parents, fittingly over Memorial Day weekend 2023.

It is our duty to honor Seaman Second Class Riley and his fellow servicemembers who lost their lives on that fateful day. I ask that we all take a moment to remember SSC David Joseph Riley and to pay tribute to his service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL CASASCO

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the achievements of Mr. Paul Casasco, a senior audio operator for the Senate Chamber, on the occasion of his retirement.

Maryland is home to a robust Federal workforce that serves our country with pride. Federal employees work day-in and day-out to provide vital services to the American people, and I have the honor of representing many of these dedicated individuals.

A native of Howard County, MD, Paul Casasco has served the U.S. Senate with distinction for 37 years. Hired in April 1986, Mr. Casasco was a member of the original team that piloted live national coverage of the Senate floor. Within weeks, the U.S. Senate voted to make this coverage permanent, cementing public access to and transparency of its procedures and activities. Mr. Casasco's contributions have ensured that the Senate Recording Studio has become a modern facility that caters to the body of the Senate. He is the last serving member of the original 1986 team.

Paul Casasco's dedication will be sorely missed in the U.S. Senate. His colleagues and I join in wishing him all the best for a fulfilling and enjoyable next chapter in retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IOWA BEER CRAFT MONTH

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize June as Iowa Beer Craft Month. This celebration honors our local craft breweries which contribute so much to the economy and culture of our State.

Iowa's craft beer industry continues to grow and thrive, creating more than \$1 billion in economic impact. Iowa Beer Craft Month offers beer lovers across the State a wonderful opportunity to responsibly explore the unique and amazing flavors and styles of our local breweries, while also supporting Iowa small businesses.

I encourage all who can to raise a glass and toast to the exceptional quality and craftsmanship of Iowa beer.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13303 OF MAY 22, 2003, WITH RESPECT TO THE STABILIZATION OF IRAQ—PM 13

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the stabilization of Iraq declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003—as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13290 of March 20, 2003, Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, Executive Order 13438 of July 17, 2007, and Executive Order 13668 of May 27, 2014—is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2023.

Obstacles to the orderly reconstruction of Iraq, the restoration and maintenance of peace and security in the country, and the development of political, administrative, and economic institutions in Iraq continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 16, 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3089. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify delayed notice requirements, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3089. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify delayed notice requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 18, a joint resolution disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to "Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility" and, further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Roger Marshall, Mike Crapo, Bill Cassidy, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Ted Budd, Jacky Rosen, Tom Cotton, Josh Hawley, Thom Tillis, Marsha Blackburn, John Thune, John Barrasso, Joni Ernst, Ted Cruz, Cynthia Lummis, Ron Johnson, Sherrod Brown, Markwayne Mullin, John Boozman, Lindsey Graham, Tommy Tuberville, Eric Schmitt, Rick Scott, Mike Lee, Bill Hagerty, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Kennedy, Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Veterans Affairs, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 18. Joint resolution disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to "Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 2. An act to secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and was referred as indicated:

EC-1223. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 16, 2023; ordered to lie on the table.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 111. A bill to require each agency, in providing notice of a rulemaking, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule (Rept. No. 118-28).

S. 257. A bill to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-29).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 479. A bill to modify the fire management assistance cost share, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-30).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 780. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives (Rept. No. 118-31).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 917. A bill to establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-32).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1607. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit a private cause of action for damages in the case of a group health plan which fails to provide for primary payment or appropriate reimbursement; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. KELLY):

S. 1608. A bill to provide for the expansion of the Starr-Camargo Bridge near Rio Grande City, Texas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1609. A bill to direct the Election Assistance Commission to establish a program to make grants to States to provide increased pay for election workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KING, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. KELLY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1610. A bill to authorize administrative absences and travel and transportation allowances for members of the Armed Forces to travel and obtain reproductive health care; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SMITH:

S. 1611. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reauthorize the Community Connect Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1612. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to publish a rule to implement the requirement that the Secretary be permitted to waive the limitation in law on reimbursement of veterans receiving domiciliary care in State homes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1613. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to reauthorize the feral swine eradication and control pilot program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 1614. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections against the importation, and transport between States, of injurious species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 1615. A bill to improve agency rule-making, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1616. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow for 12 associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. 1617. A bill to protect Federal, State, and local public safety officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1618. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to establish an employee equity investment facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1619. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy to counter fentanyl trafficking in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1620. A bill to amend the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to extend the authorization for a construction project at Fort Gillem, Georgia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1621. A bill to provide for an exemption from authorized strength limitations for licensed behavioral health providers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 1622. A bill to discourage speculative oil and gas leasing and to promote enhanced multiple use management of public land and National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1623. A bill to extend the authority of the Department of the Army to carry out a child development center project in Fort Gordon, Georgia; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1624. A bill to require certain civil penalties to be transferred to a fund through

which amounts are made available for the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program at the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1625. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an election to expense certain qualified sound recording costs otherwise chargeable to capital account; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 1626. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission, to issue rules prohibiting entities from offering minor consumers artificial intelligence features in the products of those entities without parental consent, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1627. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a tax credit for nurse preceptors; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1628. A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in agriculture research; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. LUJÁN:

S. 1629. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to increase the accountability of the Office of Special Counsel in enforcing certain provisions of that title vigorously, consistently, and without regard to the political affiliation, career status, or personal characteristics of individuals subject to those provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1630. A bill to modify the procedures for issuing special recreation permits for certain public land units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1631. A bill to enhance the authority granted to the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice with respect to unmanned aircraft systems and unmanned aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. PETERS):

S.J. Res. 28. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. PETERS):

S.J. Res. 29. A joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. PETERS):

S.J. Res. 30. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Antoinette Bush as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 214. A resolution to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Neely; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 13

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 13, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

S. 26

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 26, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

S. 141

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 161

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 161, a bill to extend the Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 320

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 320, a bill to amend title II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the disability insurance benefits waiting period for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 396

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 396, a bill to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities.

S. 412

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 412, a bill to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes.

S. 452

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 452, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 652, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 661

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to require an interagency study on the environmental and energy impacts of crypto-asset mining, to assess crypto-asset mining compliance with the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 761

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 761, a bill to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the

Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 831

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 831, a bill to address transnational repression by foreign governments against private individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 928

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 928, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prepare an annual report on suicide prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 1058

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1058, a bill to protect airline crew members, security screening personnel, and passengers by banning abusive passengers from commercial aircraft flights, and for other purposes.

S. 1165

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1165, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to make medical assistance available to inmates during the 30-day period preceding their release.

S. 1212

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 1212, a bill to authorize notaries public to perform, and to establish minimum standards for, electronic notarizations and remote notarizations that occur in or affect interstate commerce, to require any Federal court to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any State, to require any State to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any other State when the notarization was performed under or relates to a public Act, record, or judicial proceeding of notarial officer's State or when the notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 1220

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1220, a bill to establish the position of Special Envoy to the Pacific Islands Forum.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1271, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, and for other purposes.

S. 1273

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1273, a bill to require a study on Holocaust education efforts of States, local educational agencies, and public elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes.

S. 1298

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1298, a bill to award grants for the creation, recruitment, training and education, retention, and advancement of the direct care workforce and to award grants to support family caregivers.

S. 1334

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1334, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop, in cooperation with allies and partners in the Middle East, an integrated maritime domain awareness and interdiction capability, and for other purposes.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to apply additional payments, discounts, and other financial assistance towards the cost-sharing requirements of health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1398

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1398, a bill to prohibit agencies of the government from soliciting or entering into agreements with nongovernmental organizations to conduct voter registration or voter mobilization activities on the property or website of the agency or from using Federal funds to carry out activities directed under Executive Order 14019, and for other purposes.

S. 1449

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1449, a bill to improve the environmental review process, and for other purposes.

S. 1460

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1460, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to remove the exclusion of pistols, revolvers, and other firearms from the definition of consumer product in order to permit the issuance of safety standards for such articles by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

S. 1509

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1509, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to extend and reform the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

S. 1525

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1525, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to address governmental interference in content moderation decisions by providers of interactive computer services, and for other purposes.

S. 1530

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1530, a bill to permit COPS grants to be used for the purpose of increasing the compensation and hiring of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1532, a bill to suspend the entry of covered aliens in response to the fentanyl public health crisis.

S. 1560

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1560, a bill to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 1600

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1600, a bill making further supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, for border management activities, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 27

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 27, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs of the Department of Labor relating to "Rescission of Implementing Legal Requirements Regarding the Equal Opportunity Clause's Religious Exemption Rule".

S. CON. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 2, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

S. RES. 138

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 138, a resolution highlighting the risks that environmental defenders face around the world and commending their role in defending human rights, combating climate chaos, and supporting a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 188, a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 203

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 203, a resolution recognizing the significance of Jewish American Heritage Month as a time to celebrate the contributions of Jewish Americans to the society and culture of the United States.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1625. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an election to expense certain qualified sound recording costs otherwise chargeable to capital account; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of the Help Independent Tracks Succeed (HITS)

Act, which Senator BLACKBURN and I introduced today. Representatives LINDA SÁNCHEZ and RON ESTES have introduced companion legislation in the House of Representatives.

The U.S. Tax Code allows film, television, and theater productions to fully deduct production expenses in the year they are incurred.

However, recording artists are not given the same treatment and instead must amortize their production expenses over a number of years.

Moreover, many live performance stages and venues across the country closed for months as a result of the pandemic. Independent musicians and music makers, including both technicians and creators, suffered more than most other professions during this period, and many continue to recover.

Our bill would provide a measure of relief to music creators by allowing independent musicians, technicians, and music producers to deduct the costs of producing new musical and other sound recordings in the year they are incurred, thereby putting them on a level playing field with film, television, and theater productions.

Specifically, the bill would allow qualified sound recording producers to deduct 100% of recording production expenses—up to \$150,000—in the year they are incurred, rather than in later years.

Because this change would simply accelerate a tax deduction that already exists, the bill's cost would be modest.

In addition, because the deduction would be capped at \$150,000 per production, our legislation would benefit smaller, independent musicians and music producers rather than large companies.

Music has inspired, comforted, and entertained each of us. Our bill would help create parity between musical creators and other creative producers and stimulate a sector of the economy that is a fundamental part of each of our lives.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1628. A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in agriculture research; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1628

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “America Grows Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. FUNDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not other-

wise appropriated, to each funding recipient described in subsection (b) for the programs, projects, and activities of such funding recipient, the following amounts:

(1) For fiscal year 2024, the amount equal to 105 percent of the amount of new budget authority made available in appropriation Acts for that funding recipient for fiscal year 2023, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during fiscal year 2023, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(2) For each of fiscal years 2025 through 2033, the amount equal to 105 percent of the amount appropriated to that funding recipient under this subsection for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during such previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(3) For fiscal year 2034, and each fiscal year thereafter, the amount appropriated under this paragraph for the previous fiscal year, increased by the percentage increase (if any), during such previous fiscal year, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(b) FUNDING RECIPIENTS DESCRIBED.—The funding recipients described in this subsection are—

- (1) the Agricultural Research Service;
- (2) the Economic Research Service;
- (3) the National Agricultural Statistics Service; and
- (4) the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

(c) AVAILABILITY.—Each amount appropriated under subsection (a) shall remain available for obligation through the last day of the fiscal year for which such amount is appropriated.

SEC. 3. EXEMPTION FROM SEQUESTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting after “Advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund and Other Funds (16–0327–0–1–600).” the following:

“Appropriations made available under section 2(a) of the America Grows Act of 2023.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to any sequestration order issued under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this Act shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(d)).

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this Act shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 4106 of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 214—TO AUTHORIZE TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. NEELY

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 214

Whereas, in the case of *United States v. Neely*, Cr. No. 21-642, pending in the United States District Court for the District of Co-

lumbia, both the prosecution and defense are seeking the production of testimony from Michael J. Mastrian, Director of the Senate Radio and Television Gallery, a department of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§ 288b(a) and 288c(a)(2), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent current and former officers and employees of the Senate with respect to any subpoena, order, or request for evidence relating to their official responsibilities;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may, by the judicial or administrative process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate; and

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate may promote the administration of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Michael J. Mastrian, Director of the Senate Radio and Television Gallery, is authorized to provide relevant testimony in the case of *United States v. Neely*, except concerning matters for which a privilege should be asserted.

SEC. 2. The Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Mr. Mastrian, and any current or former officer or employee of his office, in connection with the production of evidence authorized in section one of this resolution.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, I have 11 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE,
CUSTOMS, AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

The Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness of the Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

The Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Preston McGee, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges until May 17, 2023.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I ask, as a preliminary matter, unanimous consent that Martin Gurch and Michael Harris, fellows in my office, be given floor privileges for the remainder of 2023.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

MAY 16, 2023.

Hon. KAMALA HARRIS,
President of the United States Senate,
Washington, DC.

MADAM: I have the honor to submit a full and complete statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate, showing in detail the items of expense under proper appropriations, the aggregate thereof, and exhibiting

the exact condition of all public moneys received, paid out, and remaining in my possession from October 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, in compliance with Section 105 of Public Law 88-454, approved August 20, 1964, as amended.

Sincerely,

SONCERIA A. BERRY,
Secretary of the Senate.

CHANGING AGE-DETERMINED ELIGIBILITY TO STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 60, S. 467.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 467) to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment, as follows:

(The part of the bill intended to be inserted is printed in *italic*.)

S. 467

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Changing Age-Determined Eligibility To Student Incentive Payments Act” or the “CADETS Act”.

SEC. 2. AGE REQUIREMENT FOR THE STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM OF THE STATE MARITIME ACADEMIES.

Section 51509 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i) AGE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may make an agreement under this section only with a qualified student who will meet the age requirement for enlistment *or commission* in the Navy Reserve at the time of graduation from the academy.”.

Mr. BENNET. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendment be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment was agreed to.

The bill (S. 467), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 467

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Changing Age-Determined Eligibility To Student Incentive Payments Act” or the “CADETS Act”.

SEC. 2. AGE REQUIREMENT FOR THE STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM OF THE STATE MARITIME ACADEMIES.

Section 51509 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i) AGE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may make an agreement under this section only with a qualified student who will meet the age requirement for enlistment or commission in the Navy Reserve at the time of graduation from the academy.”.

AUTHORIZING TESTIMONY AND REPRESENTATION IN UNITED STATES V. NEELY

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 214, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 214) to authorize testimony and representation in United States v. Neely.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, another criminal trial arising out of the events of January 6, 2021, is scheduled to begin on May 22, 2023, in Federal district court in the District of Columbia. The defendant in this case is charged with multiple counts, including unlawfully entering and remaining in a restricted area within the U.S. Capitol grounds.

The prosecution and defense are seeking trial testimony from Michael J. Mastrian, director of the Senate Radio and Television Gallery, which operates under the authority of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, relating to the Gallery's regulation of access to the Capitol by bona fide members of the electronic news media.

Senate Sergeant at Arms Gibson would like to cooperate by providing relevant testimony in this proceeding from Mr. Mastrian.

In keeping with the rules and practices of the Senate, this resolution would authorize the production of relevant testimony from Mr. Mastrian, with representation by the Senate legal counsel.

Mr. BENNET. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 214) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 17,
2023

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the

time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Daniel nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session ripen at 11:30 a.m. and that if cloture is invoked on the Daniel nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.; further, if cloture is invoked on the Papillion nomination, the confirmation vote be at a time to be determined by the majority leader following consultation with the Republican leader; that following the cloture vote on

the Papillion nomination, notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate resume legislative session to consider Calendar No. 77, S.J. Res. 18; and that at 5 p.m., the joint resolution be considered read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution; further, that upon disposition of the joint resolution, the Senate resume executive session and that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; finally, that there be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to each rollcall vote.

For the information of the Senate, there will be one vote at 11:30 a.m., two votes at 2:30 p.m., and two votes at 5 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:27 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
SONYA CAMPBELL AND MIKE
LEMAY

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the dedicated service of Sonya Campbell and Mike LeMay, longtime owners of the Hanover True Value Hardware Store. For over 50 years, Sonya and Mike faithfully served their community with a helping hand and an easy smile. Their store has been an institution of downtown Hanover, and over the decades they helped so many to improve their homes, yards, garages, and offices. Mike and Sonya are embarking on their well-earned retirement this year, and their presence in Hanover and the Upper Valley Region will be sorely missed.

Sonya began working at the True Value store in 1976 as a teenager, at the same time I was attending Dartmouth College in Hanover. In 1991, Sonya bought the store and became the owner. She remained the owner for more than three decades, maintaining the hardware store that locals came to love and rely on with her family by her side. The strong family ties are part of what makes the store so authentic to Hanover and the Upper Valley community—it is run by people who care about their neighbors and want to help in any way they can. Over the years, I have had the pleasure of visiting Sonya and Mike's store many times, and during each visit they reminded me of the values of hard work and kindness in the community.

Sonya and Mike's dedication to their community runs deep, and there are few in Hanover and the Upper Valley who have not felt their positive impact. From serving as a long-time resource for the town's older residents—fixing flashlights, replacing keys, and helping with household repairs—to working with the local newspaper, the Valley News, to provide free copies of the paper to Hanover High School graduates so they have a record of the news on the day they graduated, Mike and Sonya are always looking for ways to help their neighbors.

I wish them well in their retirement and know that their presence in downtown Hanover will be sorely missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. FULCHER. I arrived on the floor too late.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of May 16, 2023, I was unavoidably detained in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question for H. Res. 398 and NO on H. Res. 398.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained due to travel delays.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213 and YEA on Roll Call No. 214.

IN MEMORY OF MR. FREDERICK C.
"FRED" BRUMMER

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the life of my good friend, Mr. Fredrick C. "Fred" Brummer, who passed away on May 1, 2023. Fred was a loyal friend and dedicated public servant who contributed enormously to our community.

Fred was born October 28, 1945, in Babylon, New York. In 1957, at the age of 12, Fred and his family moved to Florida. He graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1968 and a Master of Business Administration in 1974. In 1972, he married his wonderful wife of 51 years, Catherine A. "Cathi" Anderson, of Hollywood, Florida.

In 1976, Fred earned the qualification as a Certified Public Accountant. Fred began his private accounting practice, Brummer & Rogers, PA, CPA, in 1981 in Apopka, Florida. He was a member of both the American and Florida Institutes of CPAs.

In 1998, Fred was elected to serve as State Representative from District 38 in the Florida Legislature and did so subsequently until 2006. During his time in the Florida Legislature, Fred served as Chair of the State Administration Committee, the Committee for Appropriations for Commerce and Local Affairs, and the Committee for Finance and Taxation and as Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee. He was recognized for his steadfast service by numerous organizations including as "Representative of the Year" by both

the Florida Police Benevolent Association and the International Association of Fire Fighters. In 2006, Fred was elected to serve as an Orange County Commissioner and served honorably until 2014.

Fred was passionate and dedicated to serving his community. He chaired the Orange County School Overcrowding Committee, was a member and President of the Apopka Rotary Club, member of the Orange County Membership and Mission Review Board, Orange County Public Schools Finance Advisory Committee, the Wekiva Basin Area Task Force, the Wekiva River Basin Coordinating Committee, Lake County Fire & Emergency Service Advisory Committee, and the City of Apopka Fire Pension Board.

He was honored for his many years of service by receiving many awards and acknowledgements including the Apopka Chamber of Commerce Businessman of the Year in 1991, Apopka Rotary Rotarian of the Year in 1993, and in 1995 receiving the Apopka Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award, the Apopka Daybreak Rotary Outstanding Service Award, and the Habitat for Humanity Greater Apopka Volunteer Service Award.

Fred is remembered as a man of honor, of humility and as one who served his community with tireless dedication. I am truly thankful for Fred's friendship and dedication to the Central Florida community.

COMMENDING TERRY O'SULLIVAN
ON HIS RETIREMENT AS GENERAL
PRESIDENT OF THE LA-
BORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF NORTH AMERICA

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend General President of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), Terry O'Sullivan, who is retiring after nearly 24 years of service.

Once one of the youngest union leaders in the nation, Terry dedicated his life to serving the members of LIUNA, fighting for middle class and working families, and advancing the broader labor movement in the United States.

As General President, Terry inspired workers and grew LIUNA's membership to one of the largest and most active unions in the nation. LIUNA built a reputation as a premiere energy and infrastructure union under his leadership, and more than half a million LIUNA members continue to power our economy.

After more than two decades of fighting for the working people of this country, Terry's impact on the labor movement will last for generations. The working men and women of the United States are lucky to have had Terry in their corner for 24 years, and we cannot thank him enough for his service.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Please join me in honoring and commending Terry O'Sullivan as we celebrate his extraordinary career and wish him happiness and success as he begins this new chapter.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DONALD
L. HALE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the life of Donald L. Hale, who joined the angels in July of 1997. As a true and devoted patriot, he made valuable contributions to the safety of our Nation and to the preservation of freedom around the world.

As a member of "Merrill's Marauders" during WWII, Hale answered the call for the most dangerous missions and faced the most brutal conditions in the Japanese-occupied jungles of Myanmar (then known as Burma). Heroes like him represent both the best of our Army and of our Nation. They endured fierce combat, life-threatening illnesses, along with extreme exhaustion and heat, all in the toughest terrain one can face in battle. Their fearless efforts laid the foundation for the creation of the Army Ranger regiment.

The contributions of Hale and his fellow Marauders did not go unnoticed. They were recently honored with Congressional Gold Medals, ensuring that the U.S. will never forget their sacrifices. While he is sadly no longer with us, Hale's family proudly received his honor on his behalf.

As we mourn Donald Hale's passing, his presence was a blessing for all who knew him and his commitment to his Nation helped keep us free. The positive impacts he had on the lives of others will live on and remain forever in our hearts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances in flight delays, I missed one vote on Monday, May 15, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 213.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
FORMER CONGRESSMAN STEVE
STIVERS UPON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE OHIO NATIONAL
GUARD AT THE RANK OF MAJOR
GENERAL

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I along with members of the Ohio Delegation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Former Congressman Steve Stivers on his retirement from

the Ohio National Guard at the rank of Major General. During General Stiver's career in the Ohio National Guard, he also held office in the Ohio Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Ohio's 15th Congressional District. He distinguished himself in Washington by his common decency, his dedication to his constituents, and a desire to help anyone he could. Currently, he is serving as president and CEO at the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

Born and raised in Ripley, Ohio, Steve is the son of Carol and Ernst Stivers. After graduating high school, he went on to study at The Ohio State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics and international relations in 1989. He earned his MBA from OSU in 1996. During his undergraduate studies at OSU, Steve joined the Ohio National Guard. He was eventually called to active duty in October 2004 and was sent to Djibouti, Kuwait, Qatar, and Iraq, where he was awarded a Bronze Star for his service as battalion commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Before being called to active duty, Steve was appointed by Ohio Senate Republicans in 2003 to represent the 16th Ohio Senate District. He won a full term to the Ohio Senate in 2004. He remained in the Ohio Senate until 2008. In 2010, Steve ran and won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 15th Congressional District. During his time in Congress, he served on the House Committee on Financial Services and became the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance. He would go on to win re-election 5 consecutive times before leaving the House in 2021 to serve as the president and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to our former colleague, Major General Steve Stivers, on his retirement from the Ohio National Guard. On behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio, I wish Steve all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his 38 years of service to Ohio and our Nation.

HONORING DENISE JONES FOR 50
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of one of my constituents, Ms. Denise Jones.

Ms. Jones is retiring this May after 50 years of service to the public education system in North Texas.

A lifelong resident of Haltom City, Texas, Denise grew up attending public schools around her including WT Francisco Elementary, Haltom Middle School, and Haltom High School.

As a senior at Haltom High School in 1972, Denise joined the staff and never looked back. For the first 25 years, she faithfully served the Birdville Independent School District as a district administrative assistant. Then, in 1998, Denise joined the special education department where she has been a loyal servant for the past 25 years.

As a former schoolteacher and daughter of an educator, I know firsthand how important the work our public servants is. Denise's achievement of working in public education for 50 years is truly impressive and reflects her unwavering dedication to helping shape the minds of future generations. Her impact will be felt for many years to come.

Again, I want to congratulate Denise on her retirement from Birdville Independent School District and wish her the absolute best.

CELEBRATING AMERICA'S
TEACHERS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, as the mother of a teacher and the daughter of a teacher, I am glad to rise today to recognize Teacher Appreciation Week which was celebrated from May 8 through May 12, 2023.

As another school year comes to a close in the coming weeks, we should take the time to applaud the men and women who are so crucial to ensuring our children have a quality education.

To say it can be a thankless job, is a gigantic understatement. But it can also be a very rewarding career, one that changes lives forever.

I think it would not be hard for any one of us to recall a teacher who had an impact and probably continues to have an impact on our lives today.

And that's why it's critical that we ensure that today's students and the generations to come have access to quality teachers who help make a difference in their education outcomes.

For too long, our Nation's policies have under-valued the teaching profession. We can ill-afford to do that.

We know that there are persistent and widespread teacher shortages nationwide every year, with thousands of teaching positions going unfilled.

We can support our students by ensuring they have high quality teachers who can earn a decent wage.

Recent data from the National Education Association shows that in 17 percent of school districts, the top salary a teacher can earn (with 30 years of experience and a Ph.D.) is \$60,000.

Nearly 9,000 school districts provide starting teacher salaries below \$40,000.

We need to support efforts like the American Teacher Act that I have cosponsored that help school districts of all sizes adequately pay teachers.

This is not rocket science.

Two-thirds of teachers, and half of teachers of color, believe higher salaries are the best way to attract and retain a talented and diverse workforce, making it the top choice of incentives.

Other research finds that teacher salaries are the number one reason why teachers say they will leave and the number one reason former teachers say they did leave the profession.

As we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week, I encourage everyone to remember and

thank a teacher who has made a difference in their life.

I want to thank the teachers who shaped my life and my children's and grandchildren's lives.

And I encourage my colleagues to work with me to support policies to help train, develop, and adequately pay our teachers.

RECOGNIZING CAPT. KATHRYN BONNER

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Captain Kathryn Esther Bonner of Sevierville, Tennessee for her heroic service. Last year, I came to know Captain Bonner when I had the pleasure of honoring her personally at our First Congressional District's Veteran Pin Ceremony of Honor in Sevier County.

In 1967, Captain Bonner reported to Officer Training in Newport, Rhode Island as an Ensign Nurse Corps officer for the United States Navy. Upon completion of her training, she reported to Camp LeJeune Marine Corps base in North Carolina. There, she first cared for the many wounded Marines returning from the Vietnam War and began her lifelong love and respect for the Marine Corps.

In November 1969, Captain Bonner was assigned to her next duty station, aboard the USS *Sanctuary* AH-17, a vessel responsible for patrolling the waters off the coast of Hue, Vietnam. While aboard, she administered round-the-clock care to badly wounded service personnel, many arriving straight from the battlefield and rice paddies, as well as civilian Vietnamese patients. Every day, she lived and worked in constant vigilance as she was always within feet of the wards where the wounded lay. A welcome break in the testing routine, she recollects fondly the visit from Bob Hope, Connie Stevens, and Neil Armstrong, who just a few months earlier had walked on the moon, on Christmas Eve 1969.

Captain Bonner served at many stations of duty over her extensive military career to include the Fleet Naval Hospital Comm Z14 Jacksonville and the U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery in Washington, D.C., among others. Her retirement from active-duty service in 1971 did not end her call to service as she continued her career as a Nurse in the United States Air Force Reserves. In that role, she completed flight nurse training and helped bring wounded Marines back home from the 1983 Beirut Barracks Bombing. In 1988, she returned to the Navy as a Reservist and served with distinction until her formal retirement in June of 2003, after 26 years of military service. Captain Bonner received several awards and commendations during her career, including the Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Navy Commendation Medals, 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. She was also selected as the Outstanding Nurse of the Year 3 times in her Air Force Reserve units time of service and once as her numbered Air Force Nurse of the year. Please join me to recognize American hero, Captain Bonner and thank her for her selfless, courageous military service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 2022-2023 DUNMORE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible achievements of the 2022-2023 Dunmore High School girls varsity basketball team. During this year's season, the "Lady Bucks" brought great pride to our community by winning the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) 3A State Championship for the first time in school history.

As the Member of the U.S. House representing Dunmore, I'm proud to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of the Lady Bucks that led to their championship. They played with passion and a spirit of excellence that was evident in every game. They demonstrated that when a group of individuals works together and supports each other, anything is possible.

I want to acknowledge the coaching staff, led by Coach Carrie Toomey, and Assistant Coach Michael O'Malley, who have instilled a culture of commitment, discipline, and respect in these athletes. Under their guidance, Dunmore truly played a season worthy of a state title.

The success of the 2022-2023 team is also a reflection of the support they received from the Dunmore itself. From parents and families who cheered them on in every game, to the teachers and staff who have provided guidance and encouragement, to the businesses and organizations that also supported the team, the Dunmore Lady Bucks have been lifted up by the entire community.

It's no surprise it happened that way because, in Northeastern Pennsylvania, we believe in the power of working together and showing civic spirit. The Dunmore Lady Bucks' championship is a testament to the strength of that belief. These players demonstrated what can happen when we support our young people to the fullest.

So, I congratulate the 2022-2023 Dunmore High School girls varsity basketball team on their historic season and thank them for inspiring us all. I'm proud to represent Dunmore and look forward to celebrating many more successes in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on May 15, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213, and YEA on Roll Call No. 214.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF NEW FAIRVIEW

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of New Fairview as they celebrate the municipality's incorporation 50 years ago on May 21, 1973. In the late 1800s, settlers moved to Wise County, Texas, many traveling from Illinois. The area that covers roughly 16 square miles was originally named the "Illinois Settlement." As time passed, the population grew slowly, and the agrarian community established a church, cemetery, and a school. In 1973, the city's name was changed to "Fairview" based upon the residents' beautiful point of view overlooking the north Texas prairie.

By 1980, the city had a population of 180 people. Almost two decades later in 1999, the population had grown to nearly 900 residents, and the city officially changed their name to "New Fairview" in order to distinguish themselves from several other cities in the State of Texas who shared the name.

As a result of its prime location in close proximity to job centers in Fort Worth and Alliance Airport, the City of New Fairview continues to expand and develop while still retaining the semi-rural environment that its residents appreciate. The strong Texas economy has fueled expansive business development and population growth in New Fairview. The North Central Texas Council of Government has estimated the 2022 population at 2,060, resulting in the city being one of top ten fastest-growing cities in the 16-county region. City residents are served by excellent schools within the Northwest and Decatur ISDs, which also have encouraged new housing starts for families. In the short 50 years that New Fairview has existed, the city has had significant growth and shows no sign of slowing down.

It is my honor to represent the citizens of the City of New Fairview, Texas, in the U.S. House of Representatives and join its citizens in marking the thriving city's semi-centennial and look forward to "The City with a View's" bright future.

RECOGNIZING MR. MATT STEVE PANDOL, JR.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my friend and colleague, Congressman KEVIN MCCARTHY, to honor the life of Mr. Matt Steve Pandol, Jr., who passed away on April 21, 2023, at his home in Delano, California. He was 60 years old.

The son of Matt and Lucy Pandol, he was born on June 27, 1962. Matt spent his childhood in Delano and attended California State University, Fresno, where he graduated with a degree in plant science. Following his graduation, he returned home to work for his family business. Matt married his wife Linda in 1994. They had three children together and raised

them in his hometown. He worked independently and alongside the Pandol Family organization and served on the board of directors of Pandol Bros., Inc. and Delano Grape Growers Co-op Winery. Today, Pandol Bros. is one of the nation's top producers of grapes.

Matt was a fixture in the Delano community. He was a parishioner of St. Mary's Catholic Church, a member of the Greater Delano Area Youth Foundation, and a member of the American Slavonic Social Club. He was also involved in the All Slavonic American Association of Fresno. An avid shooting sports competitor, Matt was a regular at shooting tournaments across the nation. He was a member of the Kern County Gun Club and other sporting clubs. He also spent time hiking, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors.

Matt was a hardworking farmer, dedicated to producing the finest produce in California. He worked closely with his brother, Andrew, on Pandol Farms and cherished the time they spent working together. He was dedicated to the quality of the Pandol Family product. With his family name on the box, he believed the fruit had to be first class. His team was very important to him, and he valued their expertise and dedication to farming.

Matt is survived by his wife, Linda; his children, Matt III, Stefanie, and Mark; his mother, Lucy Pandol; brothers Louis Pandol, John (Angelica) Pandol, Andrew S. (Beth) Pandol; sister, Margaret (Scott) Curtis; and mother-in-law, Gerry Marcia, in addition to other relatives and in-laws.

Mr. Speaker, today we ask our colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life of our dear friend, Mr. Matt Steve Pandol, Jr., who was taken too soon. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

COMMENDING JOSEPH SELLERS, JR. ON HIS RETIREMENT AS GENERAL PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SHEET METAL, AIR, RAIL AND TRANSPORTATION WORKERS

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend General President of the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) Joseph Sellers, Jr., who is retiring after nearly 3 decades in SMART local and national leadership.

The son of a SMART sheet metal worker and local union officer, Sellers followed in his father's footsteps and began an apprenticeship in 1980 at Local 19 in Philadelphia before becoming a journeyman four years later. In 1994, he was elected to the Local's executive

board and become its president and business manager in 2002.

After being elected to international leadership in 2009 and serving as the union's general secretary since 2011, Sellers became SMART's general president in 2015 and was re-elected in 2019.

Under Sellers' leadership, SMART improved outreach and visibility to key stakeholders and policymakers on important issues to union members such as pensions, healthcare, and apprenticeships. His advocacy advanced diversity and inclusion in the union, and he established strong working relationships with members of Congress and the Biden Administration, where he helped champion the passage of the American Rescue Plan, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and the Inflation Reduction Act among many others.

The United States, SMART, and the working men and women of our country are better off because of the steadfast and visionary leadership of Joseph Sellers, Jr. He advanced the ideals of working people and fought to improve the quality of life for the American people. We are grateful for his decades of service to SMART, and his commitment to the working people and families of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Joseph Sellers, Jr., of the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers as we celebrate his retirement and dedication to serving the organization and their many working families throughout his career.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1655–S1683

Measures Introduced: Twenty-five bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1607–1631, S.J. Res. 28–30, and S. Res. 214.

Pages S1678–79

Measures Reported:

S. 111, to require each agency, in providing notice of a rulemaking, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule. (S. Rept. No. 118–28)

S. 257, to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime. (S. Rept. No. 118–29)

S. 479, to modify the fire management assistance cost share, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 118–30)

S. 780, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives. (S. Rept. No. 118–31)

S. 917, to establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 118–32)

Pages S1677–78

Measures Passed:

DC Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act: By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 126), Senate passed H.J. Res. 42, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. **Pages S1655–63, S1663**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution. **Page S1663**

CADETS Act: Senate passed S. 467, to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies, after agreeing to the committee amendment. **Page S1682**

Authorizing testimony and representation: Senate agreed to S. Res. 214, to authorize testimony and representation in *United States v. Neely*. **Page S1682**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–13) **Page S1677**

Daniel Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Jeremy C. Daniel, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Page S1664

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, May 17, 2023; that the cloture motions filed during the session of Monday, May 15, 2023, ripen at 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Jeremy C. Daniel, all time be considered expired at 2:15 p.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Darrel James Papillion, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, the confirmation vote be at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader; that following the cloture vote on the nomination of Darrel James Papillion, notwithstanding Rule XXII, Senate begin consideration of S.J. Res. 18, disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to “Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility”; that at 5 p.m., Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution; and that there be two minutes for debate equally divided prior to each roll call vote.

Pages S1682–83

Messages from the House:

Page S1677

Measures Referred:

Page S1677

Measures Placed on the Calendar:

Pages S1655, S1677

Executive Communications:	Page S1677
Additional Cosponsors:	Pages S1679–80
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:	Pages S1680–81
Additional Statements:	Page S1677
Authorities for Committees to Meet:	Pages S1681–82
Privileges of the Floor:	Page S1682
Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—126)	Pages S1663–64

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:27 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1683.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: HYPERSONIC THREATS, MISSILE DEFENSE, AND PROTECTION OF U.S. HOMELAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for hypersonic threats, missile defense, and the protection of the United States homeland, after receiving testimony from General Glen D. VanHerck, Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command and Northern Command, and Vice Admiral Jon A. Hill, Director, Missile Defense Agency, both of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: SECURITY, COMPETITIVENESS, U.S.-CHINA RELATIONSHIP

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024, focusing on investing in United States security, competitiveness, and the path ahead for the United States-China relationship, after receiving testimony from Lloyd J. Austin III, Secretary of Defense; Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State; and Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary of Commerce.

SILICON VALLEY BANK AND SIGNATURE BANK

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the failures of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, including S. 1045, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify that the Federal Deposit Insur-

ance Corporation and appropriate Federal regulators have the authority to claw back certain compensation paid to executives, after receiving testimony from Gregory W. Becker, Silicon Valley Bank, Santa Clara, California; and Scott A. Shay, and Eric Howell, both of Signature Bank, New York, New York.

NASA BUDGET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, after receiving testimony from former Senator Bill Nelson, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Fish and Wildlife Service, after receiving testimony from Martha Williams, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure concluded a hearing to examine perspectives on new and existing Army Corps of Engineers authorities to respond to water management issues including drought and water conservation, after receiving testimony from Andrea Travnicek, North Dakota Department of Water Resources Director, Bismarck; Stephanie Roe Lewis, Gila River Indian Community, Arizona; Leslie A. Meyers, Salt River Project, Tempe, Arizona; Christy Plumer, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Washington, D.C.; and Jennifer L. Verleger, Western States Water Council, Murray, Utah.

IRS FUNDING CUTS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine House Republican supplemental IRS funding cuts, focusing on the impact on Federal law enforcement and the Federal deficit, after receiving testimony from Natasha Sarin, Yale Law School and Yale School of Management, New Haven, Connecticut; and Don Fort, former Chief, Criminal Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, Pete Sepp, National Taxpayers Union, and Chris Edwards, Cato Institute, all of Washington, D.C.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness concluded a hearing to examine economic cooperation

for a stronger and more resilient Western Hemisphere, after receiving testimony from Jonathan Fantini Porter, Partnership for Central America, Eric Farnsworth, Council of the Americas, Margaret Myers, Woodrow Wilson Center, Cathy Feingold, AFL-CIO, and Neil Herrington, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, all of Washington, D.C.

U.S. POLICY TOWARDS RUSSIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine U.S. policy towards Russia, after receiving testimony from Andrea Kendall-Taylor, Center for a New American Security Transatlantic Security Program, and John J. Sullivan, former Deputy Secretary of State and Ambassador to the Russian Federation, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Ana A. Escrogima, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, Lisa A. Johnson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lebanese Republic, Ervin Jose Massinga, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Bryan David Hunt, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone, and William W. Popp, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Uganda, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN GOVERNMENT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine artificial intelligence in government, including key practices to help ensure accountability in Federal use of AI, after receiving testimony from Taka Ariga, Chief Data Scientist, Science, Technology Assessment and Analytics, Government Accountability Office; Ritchie Eppink, American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, Boise, Idaho; Lynne E. Parker, University of Tennessee AI for Tennessee Initiative, Knoxville; Daniel E. Ho, Stanford University, Stanford, California; and Jacob Siegel, Brooklyn, New York.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law concluded an oversight hearing to examine AI, focusing on rules for artificial intelligence, after receiving testimony from Sam Altman, OpenAI, San Francisco, California; Christina Montgomery, IBM, Cortlandt Manor, New York; and Gary Marcus, New York University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 37 public bills, H.R. 3355–3391; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 405–408, were introduced. **Pages H2375–77**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2379**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 1482, to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–60);

H.R. 1496, to upgrade the communications service used by the National Weather Service, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–61);

H.R. 1735, to coordinate Federal research and development efforts focused on modernizing mathematics in STEM education through mathematical

and statistical modeling, including data-driven and computational thinking, problem, project, and performance-based learning and assessment, interdisciplinary exploration, and career connections, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–62);

H.R. 1153, to provide a clarification of non-applicability for regulation and prohibition relating to sensitive personal data under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–63); and

H.R. 366, to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat certain individuals who served in Vietnam as a member of the armed forces of the Republic of Korea as a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States for purposes of the provision of health care by the Department of Veterans Affairs (H. Rept. 118–64).

Page H2375

Recess: The House recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H2358**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:07 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Pages H2369–70**

Protect Our Law enforcement with Immigration Control and Enforcement Act of 2023, Federal Law Enforcement Officer Service Weapon Purchase Act, and Expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies—Rule for consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 398, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2494) to make the assault of a law enforcement officer a deportable offense; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3091) to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons; and providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 40) expressing support for local law enforcement officers and condemning efforts to defund or dismantle local law enforcement agencies, by a recorded vote of 222 ayes to 203 noes, Roll No. 216, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 220 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 215. **Pages H2360–69, H2370–71**

Privileged Resolution—Intent to Offer: Representative Robert Garcia (CA) announced his intent to offer a privileged resolution. **Page H2372**

Presidential Veto Message—Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414”: Read a message from the President wherein he transmitted his Memorandum of Disapproval of H.J. Res. 39, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414”, and explained his reasons therefore—ordered printed (H. Doc. 118–41). **Page H2370**

Without objection, the House postponed further consideration of the veto message and the joint resolution until the legislative day of May 24, 2023.

Page H2370

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, as modified in scope and relied upon for additional steps taken in Executive Order 13290 of March 20, 2003, Executive Order 13315 of August 28, 2003, Executive Order 13350 of July 29, 2004, Executive Order 13364 of November 29, 2004, Executive Order 13438 of July 17, 2007, and Executive Order 13668 of May 27, 2014 with re-

spect to the stabilization of Iraq is to continue in effect beyond May 22, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–42). **Page H2374**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2370–71 and H2371.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

TO REVIEW THE NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM: SUPPORTING FOREST HEALTH AND CONFRONTING THE WILDFIRE CRISIS

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Forestry held a hearing entitled “To Review the National Forest System: Supporting Forest Health and Confronting the Wildfire Crisis”. Testimony was heard from Randy Moore, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

MEMBER DAY TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY ON THEIR NATIONAL DEFENSE PRIORITIES FOR THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Member Day to Receive Testimony on Their National Defense Priorities for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024”. Testimony was heard from Chairman Thompson of Pennsylvania, and Representatives Case, Crenshaw, Garcia of Texas, James, Larsen of Washington, Obernolte, Kaptur, and Wenstrup.

EXAMINING THE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Committee on Education and Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Department of Education”. Testimony was heard from Miguel Cardona, Secretary, Department of Education.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a markup on H.R. 1042, the “Prohibiting Russian Uranium Imports Act”; H.R. 1640, the “Save Our Gas Stoves Act”; and H.R. 3277, the “Energy Emergency Leadership Act”. H.R. 3277 and H.R. 1640 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 1042 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

PROTECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FROM CYBERATTACKS: EXAMINING EXPERTISE OF SECTOR SPECIFIC AGENCIES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Cyberattacks: Examining Expertise of Sector Specific Agencies”. Testimony was heard from Puesh Kumar, Director, Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, Department of Energy; Brian Mazanec, Deputy Director, Office of Preparedness, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response, Department of Health and Human Services; and David Travers, Director, Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division, Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water, Environmental Protection Agency.

OVERSIGHT OF PRUDENTIAL REGULATORS

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of Prudential Regulators”. Testimony was heard from Michael Barr, Vice Chairman for Supervision, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Martin Gruenberg, Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Todd Harper, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration; and Michael Hsu, Acting Comptroller, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3205, to disrupt the international fentanyl supply chain, and for other purposes; H.R. 3203, to impose sanctions with respect to Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors, to hold Chinese officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl, and for other purposes; H.R. 3202, to prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad, and for other purposes; H.R. 3099, to establish in the Department of State the position of Special Envoy for the Abraham Accords, and for other purposes; H. Res. 81, calling on the President to support the creation of a Special Tribunal for the Punishment of the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine; H. Res. 377, calling for the immediate release of Evan Gershkovich, a United States citizen and journalist, who was wrongfully detained by the Government of the Russian Federation in March 2023; H. Res. 272, calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately release United States citizen Paul Whelan; and H.R. 1176, to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of

2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People’s Republic of China to resolve Taiwan’s status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes. H.R. 3205, H.R. 3203, H. Res. 81, and H.R. 3202 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3099, H. Res. 377, H. Res. 272, and H.R. 1176 were ordered reported, without amendment.

PROTECTING THE HOMELAND: AN EXAMINATION OF FEDERAL EFFORTS TO SUPPORT STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence; and Subcommittee on Emergency Management and Technology held a joint hearing entitled “Protecting the Homeland: An Examination of Federal Efforts to Support State and Local Law Enforcement”. Testimony was heard from Michael Gerke, Chief of Police, Odessa Police Department, Texas; Don Barnes, Sheriff, Orange County, California; and Michael Cox, Commissioner, Boston Police Department, Massachusetts.

MOSTLY PEACEFUL: COUNTERING LEFT-WING ORGANIZED VIOLENCE

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability held a hearing entitled “‘Mostly Peaceful’: Countering Left-Wing Organized Violence”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LOOKING AHEAD SERIES: OVERSIGHT OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Looking Ahead Series: Oversight of the United States Capitol Police”. Testimony was heard from J. Thomas Manger, Chief of Police, U.S. Capitol Police.

REVISITING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE FACE ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government held a hearing entitled “Revisiting the Implications of the FACE Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2024 BUDGET FOR THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND THE OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING, RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing entitled

“Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget for the Bureau of Land Management and the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE CHALLENGES FACING FOREST MANAGEMENT, WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION, AND WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS AHEAD OF THE 2023 WILDFIRE YEAR

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing entitled “Examining the Challenges Facing Forest Management, Wildfire Suppression, and Wildland Firefighters Ahead of the 2023 Wildfire Year”. Testimony was heard from Jaelith Hall-Rivera, Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Jeff Rupert, Director, Office of Wildland Fire, Department of the Interior; Greg Bolin, Mayor, Paradise, California; and public witnesses.

PRESERVING U.S. INTERESTS IN THE INDO-PACIFIC: EXAMINING HOW U.S. ENGAGEMENT COUNTERS CHINESE INFLUENCE IN THE REGION

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Preserving U.S. Interests in the Indo-Pacific: Examining How U.S. Engagement Counters Chinese Influence in the Region”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERDUE OVERSIGHT OF THE CAPITAL CITY: PART II

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Overdue Oversight of the Capital City: Part II”. Testimony was heard from Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia; and Matthew M. Graves, U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia.

THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT: EXAMINING THE LAW AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT COMPLETION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “The Next Fifty Years of the Clean Water Act: Examining the Law and Infrastructure Project Completion”. Testimony was heard from Andrea J. Travnicek, Director, Department of Water Resources, North Dakota; Serena Coleman McIlwain, Secretary of the Environment, Maryland; and public witnesses.

REVIEWING VA’S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PACT ACT

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing entitled “Reviewing VA’s Implementation of the PACT Act”. Testimony was heard from Joshua Jacobs, Under Secretary for Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

HEALTH CARE PRICE TRANSPARENCY: A PATIENT’S RIGHT TO KNOW

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Health Care Price Transparency: A Patient’s Right to Know”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SECURITY CLEARANCE REFORM

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Security Clearance Reform”. This hearing is closed.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: business meeting to consider the nomination of Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Time to be announced, S–216, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Rural Development and Energy, to hold hearings to examine rural broadband, focusing on connecting our communities to the digital economy, 3 p.m., SR–328A.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine the role of Special Operations Forces in supporting the National Defense Strategy, including activities that contribute to long-term strategic competition with China and Russia, 9:30 a.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine strengthening accountability at the Federal Reserve, focusing on lessons and opportunities for reform, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine how tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations drive the national debt, 10 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider S. 92, to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the “Rick Boucher Amphitheater”, S. 162, to amend the Smith River National Recreation Area Act to

include certain additions to the Smith River National Recreation Area, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain wild rivers in the State of Oregon, S. 199, to codify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain landscape-scale forest restoration projects, S. 440, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, S. 452, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, S. 461, to make certain irrigation districts eligible for Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program pumping power, S. 534, to withdraw certain Bureau of Land Management land from mineral development, S. 535, to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, S. 593, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, S. 612, to reauthorize the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, S. 623, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs, S. 683, to modify the boundary of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include certain Federal land in Lake County, California, S. 706, to withdraw the National Forest System land in the Ruby Mountains subdistrict of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and the National Wildlife Refuge System land in Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada, from operation under the mineral leasing laws, S. 736, to establish the Chiricahua National Park in the State of Arizona as a unit of the National Park System, S. 776, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Gila River system in the State of New Mexico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, S. 843, to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the use of funds for certain additional Carey Act projects, S. 873, to improve recreation opportunities on, and facilitate greater access to, Federal public land, S. 1260, to release the reversionary interest of the United States in certain non-Federal land in Salt Lake City, Utah, S. 1466, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, S. 1540, to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for circumstances under which reinitia-

tion of consultation is not required under a land and resource management plan or land use plan under those Acts, and the nominations of David Crane, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary, and Jeffrey Matthew Marootian, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), both of the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine Federal actions to improve project reviews for a cleaner and stronger economy, 10:15 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine improving health care access in rural communities, focusing on obstacles and opportunities, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jennifer M. Adams, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde, Heather Roach Variava, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Julie Turner, of Maryland, to be Special Envoy on North Korean Human Rights Issues, with the rank of Ambassador, Matthew D. Murray, of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Senior Official for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and Jennifer L. Johnson, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations, 2:45 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security, to hold hearings to examine a crisis in mental health and substance use disorder care, focusing on closing gaps in access by bringing care and prevention to communities, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 285, to provide for the perpetuation, administration, and funding of Federal Executive Boards, S. 311, to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, S. 1137, to establish the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Program, S. 931, to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, S. 1524, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 1528, to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, S. 1549, to provide the Congressional Budget Office with necessary authorities to expedite the sharing of data from executive branch agencies, S. 885, to establish a Civilian Cybersecurity Reserve in the Department of Homeland Security as a pilot project to address the cybersecurity needs of the United States with respect to national security, S. 1425, to require a report on Federal support to the cybersecurity of commercial satellite systems, S. 1464, to restrict the flow of illicit drugs into the United States,

S. 1564, to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish, or otherwise ensure the provision of, a training program on artificial intelligence for Federal management officials and supervisors, S. 1443, to require an interagency strategy for creating a unified posture on counter-unmanned aircraft systems (C-UAS) capabilities and protections at international borders of the United States, S. 1510, to amend provisions relating to the Office of the Inspector General of the Government Accountability Office, S. 473, to provide for drone security, and S. 1560, to require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, 10:30 a.m., SD-562.

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine health care denials and delays in Medicare Advantage, 2 p.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ana de Alba, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, and Irma Carrillo Ramirez, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights, to hold hearings to examine Federal judicial ethics processes at the Judicial Conference of the United States, 2 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 and 2025 advance appropriations requests for the Department of Veterans Affairs, 3 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC-217.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry, hearing entitled "A Review of Animal Agriculture Stakeholder Priorities", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, markup on the Subcommittee on Legislative Branch FY 2024 Appropriations Bill, 11 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, markup on the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill, 10 a.m., H-140 Capitol.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, markup on H.R. 1418, the "Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2023"; H.R. 2544, the "Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act"; H.R. 3281, the "Transparent PRICE Act"; H.R. 2666, the "Medicaid VBPs for Patients (MVP) Act"; H.R. 3285, the "Fairness for Patient Medications Act"; H.R. 3284, the "Providers and Payers COMPETE Act"; H.R. 3290, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to ensure transparency and oversight of the 340B drug discount program; H.R. 2559, the "Strengthening Community Care Act of 2023"; H.R. 2547, the "Special Diabetes Program for Indians Reauthorization Act of 2023"; H.R. 2550, the "Special Diabetes Program Reau-

thorization Act of 2023"; H.R. 1613, the "Drug Price Transparency in Medicaid Act of 2023"; H.R. 2665, the "Supporting Safety Net Hospitals Act"; H.R. 2679, the "PBM Accountability Act"; H.R. 3248, the "Diagnostic Lab Testing Transparency Act"; H.R. 3262, to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to increase transparency of certain health-related ownership information; H.R. 3282, the "Promoting Transparency and Healthy Competition in Medicare Act"; H.R. 3237, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require each outpatient department of a provider to include a unique identification number on claims for services, and to require hospitals with an outpatient department of a provider to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services an attestation with respect to each outpatient department, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on H.R. 3279 the "WIRELESS Leadership Act"; H.R. 3295, the "BROADBAND Leadership Act"; H.R. 3287, the "CABLE Leadership Act"; legislation on the CABLE Expansion Act; legislation on the CABLE Competition Act; legislation on the Cable Transparency Act; H.R. 3298, the "BEAD FEES Act"; legislation on the GRANTED Act; H.R. 3300, the "5G UPGRADE Act of 2023"; legislation on the SPEED for Broadband Infrastructure Act of 2023; H.R. 3289, the "Wireless Broadband Competition and Efficient Deployment Act"; H.R. 3288, the "Broadband Competition and Efficient Deployment Act"; legislation on the Wireless Resiliency and Flexible Investment Act of 2023; legislation on the Broadband Resiliency and Flexible Investment Act; H.R. 3291, the "Proportional Reviews for Broadband Deployment Act"; legislation on the RAPID Act; legislation on the Coastal Broadband Deployment Act; H.R. 3292, the "Brownfields Broadband Deployment Act"; H.R. 3280, the "TRUSTED Broadband Networks Act"; H.R. 3301, the "Connecting Communities Post Disaster Act of 2023"; H.R. 3296, the "Wildfire Communications Resiliency Act"; H.R. 3297, the "Reducing Barriers for Broadband on Federal Lands Act"; legislation on the Standard FEES Act; H.R. 3293, the "Expediting Federal Broadband Deployment Act"; H.R. 3299, the "DIGITAL Applications Act"; H.R. 3283, the "Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act"; legislation on the Federal Broadband Deployment Tracking Act; and legislation to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to extend the authority of the Federal Communications Commission to grant a license or construction permit through a system of competitive bidding, 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, joint hearing entitled "Continued Oversight Over Regional Bank Failures", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled "The Current Mortgage Market: Undermining Housing Affordability with Politics", 2 p.m., 2220 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The State of American Influence in 2023: Great Power Competition and Persistent Crises in an Era of Budget Constraints", 2 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Securing Open-Source Software Act of 2023; H.R. 1501, the “Unmanned Aerial Security Act”; H.R. 3224, the “Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Extension Act of 2023”; H.R. 3208, the “DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program Act”; and H.R. 3254, the “First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act”, 9:30 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet, hearing entitled “Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property: Part I—Interoperability of AI and Copyright Law”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H. Con. Res. 34, expressing disapproval of the withdrawal by the Secretary of the Interior of approximately 225,504 acres of National Forest System lands in Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, Minnesota, from disposition under the United States mineral and geothermal leasing laws; H.R. 200, the “Forest Information Reform Act”; H.R. 359, the “Fort San Geronimo Preservation Act”; H.R. 663, the “Native American Child Protection Act”; H.R. 886, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”; H.R. 1586, the “Forest Protection and Wildland Firefighter Safety Act of 2023”; H.R. 2989, “Save Our Sequoias Act”; and H.R. 3195, the “Superior National Forest Restoration Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Subcommittee on Government Operations and the Federal Workforce, hearing entitled “Tracking the Postal Service: An Update on the Delivering for America Plan”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, hearing entitled “Like Fire Through Dry Grass: Nursing Home Mortality and COVID-19 Policies”, 10 a.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs, hearing entitled “Driving Bad Policy: Examining EPA’s Tailpipe Emissions Rules and the Realities of a Rapid Electric Vehicle Transition”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Taking on More Risk: Examining the SBA’s Changes to the 7(a) Lending Program Part II”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, hearing entitled “The Impacts of FEMA’s Strategic Plan on Disaster Preparedness and Response”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Health; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, joint hearing entitled “VHA Recruitment and Retention: Is Bureaucracy Holding Back a Quality Workforce”, 10:30 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “The Transition Assistance Program: Steps to Ensure Success for Servicemembers as they Enter Civilian Life”, 3 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Why Health Care is Unaffordable: Anticompetitive and Consolidated Markets”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on National Intelligence Enterprise, hearing entitled “Roles and Functions of the National Counterintelligence Center (NCTC)”, 10 a.m., HVC-304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

Full Committee, business meeting on publicly releasing an unclassified transcript of a recent Committee event, 2 p.m., HVC-301 Hearing Room.

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Full Committee, business meeting on two committee reports outlining policy recommendations based on the committee’s March 23, 2023, hearing regarding the CCP’s genocide targeting the Uyghurs and on the committee’s April 2023 activities—including a tabletop exercise and roundtable—focused on enhancing deterrence against CCP aggression aimed at Taiwan, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “Leveling the Playing Field: How to Counter the CCP’s Economic Aggression”, 7 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine how a U.S. default crisis harms American families and businesses, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Jeremy C. Daniel, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 11:30 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:15 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Darrel James Papillion, of Louisiana, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Following the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Darrel James Papillion, Senate will begin consideration of S.J. Res. 18, disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to “Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility”, and vote on passage thereon at 5 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 17

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 2494—POLICE Act of 2023.

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